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The Bombay Gazette.

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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1899.
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	25th Mar.
CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	1st April
M.L. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	8th "
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	15th "
M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	22nd "
* SHANNON	4382	F. Cole	29th "
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheeler	6th May.
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	13th "
M.L. EGYPT	7913	O. Langbourne	20th "
* SHANNON	4382	F. Cole	27th "
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd June.
* CLYDE	4099	A. Symons	10th "
M.L. CARTHAGE	5198	C. Gadd	17th "
* SHANNON	4382	F. Cole	24th "

The steamers marked M.L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship here for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

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J. M. SHIELDS,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 15th March, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain	Tons	To sail on
IMPERATOR	L. Brelich	4,139	1st April 1899.
* AMPHITRITE	G. Costanzo	3,327	15th April 1899.
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,212	1st May 1899.

* SALOON passage Rs. 375.

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	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	7th April 1899.
MARIA VALERIE	A. Felinor	4,235	7th May 1899.
MARQUIS BACQUEHEM	C. Androvich	4,409	7th June 1899.

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Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,331	22nd April 1899.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Mar. 23, 1899.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA
SOCIETA RIUNITE FLORIO RUBATTINO.

BOMBAY to NAPLES and GENOA. Calling at ALEXANDRIA for BRINDISI and VENICE.

Vessels.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
MANILLA	G. B. Gavino	5,000	30th March 1899.

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THE following Steamer will SAIL—

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To Sail
SAFARI	1,432	Christiansen	29th March.

Taking Cargo for LAMU, MOMBASSA, TANGA, DARE SALAM, ZANZIBAR, and all ports south of ZANZIBAR up to DELAGOA BAY; and Native passengers up to ZANZIBAR and GERMAN coast only.

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S.S. "DWARKA," 1,655 tons, on the 28th March, at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie. (Weather permitting.)

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S.S. "PATNA," 1,820 tons, at 10 a.m., on the 29th April, calling at Kurrachee, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Bosreh, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR ADEN, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S.S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 21st April.

FOR KARACHI, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S.S. "LAWADA," 3,269 tons, on or about 11th April, calling at Karachi, Mombasa, and Zanzibar, in the foregoing or any order.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S.S. "KERBELA," 1,961 tons, on or about 25th March,

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S.S. "SIRDHANA," 2,729 tons, on or about 7th April, calling at Seychelles, Mombasa and Zanzibar in the foregoing or any order.

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TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.
VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday, 12 noon.
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Durrande	11th Apr, 1899
YARRA	4,255	X	9th May, 1899
SALAZIE	4,255	Negre	6th June 1899
LAOS	6,337	Fiaudin	4th July 1899
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	1st Aug. 1899
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schlitz	29th Aug. 1899.

Passengers are requested to ATTEND at the BALLARD PIER for the MEDICAL EXAMINATION at 10 A.M. All luggage, properly Addressed and Labelled, should be sent to the Steamer in the Stream the day before, or early on the morning of the day of Sailing.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
INDUS	6,357	Chevalier	6th April 1899.

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The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

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TREACHER'S "FINE OLD GLENLIVET" per doz.	24 0	27 0
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" "OLD IRISH" per doz.	26 0	29 0
" "DIABETES" WHISKY per doz.	25 0	28 0
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Wedding Cakes and other Cakes made, richly Almond iced and decorated at very reasonable charges.

Small Tea Cakes, Italian Cakes, Italian Pastry, English Cakes, Foudants, Almond Paste Sweets, Chocolates, French Confits, Crystallised Fruits, Marrons Glacees, Puddings and many other delicacies. All a speciality.

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ALWAYS FRESH and in the best condition, is probably the most NUTRITIOUS INVALID'S FOOD ever offered—It is prepared by LIEBIG'S PROCESS from the FRESH and BONES of SELECTED CHICKENS—and its use produces an immediate and gratifying effect in the condition of DELICATE INFANTS and INVALIDS. Most valuable in the HOT WEATHER—Possessing a GRATEFUL FLAVOUR. It is readily taken in cases where every other FOOD OR DIET is repulsive to the Patient.

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THE NATURAL CARLSBAD SPRUDEL-SALT is an efficient diuretic, but as an aperient it should be taken before breakfast, in doses of from one to two teaspoonfuls dissolved in water.

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WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB.
BOMBAY EXTRA MEETINGS.

THE FOLLOWING dates have been FIXED :—
SATURDAY 25th March 1899.

J. NEUBERG,
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CIGARS AND CHEROOTS,
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EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES
of Finest Qualities.

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Latest Patterns with all necessary equipment.

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JULIUS BLUTHNER'S
ALIQUOT GRAND PIANOFORTE

is used by the celebrated accompanist and pianist, Mr. S. LIDDLE in accompanying the LEADING VOCALISTS of the WORLD. A clear proof that

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THE MUSICAL QUALITIES OF THE
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RESTORATIVE EFFERVESCENT SALINE. For cooling the system and purifying the blood it is unequalled and for preventing and removing unpleasant erruptions, so common to many persons at the change of seasons, it is greatly superior to Arsenic, Sulphur and such remedies.

Price Rs. 1-4 per Bottle.

LEMON SQUASH Prepared from the fresh fruit and guaranteed pure and wholesome. Diluted with plain or aerated water, it forms a refreshing beverage.

Price As. 11 per Bottle.

PHILLIPS and Co., Ld.
CHEMISTS AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.
BOMBAY AND POONA.

BAHADUR CIGARS.

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BOMBAY GAZETTE Bi-Weekly Edition.—Issued on Thursday and Saturday, giving all the News and Telegrams up to date. Subscription per Annum, Rs. 12; Half-yearly, Rs. 6; Quarterly Rs. 3; to Subscribers in Bombay, Rs. 12 to the Mofussil, postage extra.

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All Bound in Cloth, Gilt Edges and are (with a few Exceptions) Edited by Sir Arthur Sullivan,

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Germany, the Songs of, a Collection of 102 Volk-lieder, with German and English Words	4 0	1 8
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Verdi's Il Trovatore, an Opera in four Acts, with Italian and English Words	5 0	2 0
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EVENING CONCERT
IN
THE TOWN HALL.
ON TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH, AT 9 P.M.
ORCHESTRA 50 PERFORMERS.
CHORUS 75 VOICES.

By kind Permission of H. E. the GOVERNOR, and Lieut.-Colonel COLLETTE and the Officers KING'S SHROPSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY, MEMBERS of both Bands will assist the Society.

PART I.

1. Orchestral Symphony No. 5 in C. Minor Op. 67 Beethoven
   1. Allegro con brio C Minor.
   2. Andante cantabile A Flat.
   3. Scherzo and trio Allegro C Minor and Major leading into
   4. Finale—Allegro, return of trio, Allegro and final Presto C. Major
2. Cantata ..Schicksalslied Song of Destiny...Brahms.
   For Chorus and Orchestra.

INTERVAL OF TEN MINUTES.

PART II.

3. Cantata...The Revenge .....Villiers Stanford
   For Chorus and Orchestra.

Honorary Conductor—Lieut.-Colonel MARTIN.

Tickets can be obtained at Messrs. SOUNDY and Co.

Reserved Seats, Rs. 3. Admittance, Rs. 2.

ART SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION,
TOWN HALL.
ADMISSION REDUCED TO 4 ANNAS.
THE LAST TWO DAYS!!
FRIDAY 24TH, and SATURDAY, 25TH,

On FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the EXHIBITION will be OPEN from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

MILITARY BAND every Afternoon and Evening.

Exhibitors who are in Bombay are requested to send for their pictures to the Town Hall on SUNDAY, March 26th.

TO FREEMASONS.

FREEMASONS, attending the OPENING of the NEW MASONIC HALL, on SATURDAY, the 25th March, are informed that carriages should approach the Hall by the WAUDBY ROAD on the GYMKHANA SIDE and NOT from Hornby Road.

D. R. CHICHGUR,
Honorary Secretary,
Freemason's Joint Hall Committee.

NOTICE.

FOR CONVENIENCE of our constituents, we now have a TELEPHONIC communication No. 221. Messages will be taken down in Shorthand, and our business is fully developed to be carried on the American Principle.

P. J. BRAIZE, F. C. S. S.
Manager.
Bombay Type-Writing Co.
22nd March, 1899.

NOTICE.

AT a MEETING of the TRUSTEES of the PORT of KARACHI held on FRIDAY, the 17th March, 1899, the undermentioned DEBENTURES were drawn,—

No.	61	
,,	145	
,,	162	
,,	214	Standard Life Assurance Co.
,,	255	
,,	296	
,,	393	
,,	409	Edulji Dinshaw, Esq. C. I. E., and 4 other
,,	443	Trustees Edulji Dinshaw Fund.
,,	497	A. D. Hussanali Bey Effendi.

And it is hereby notified that the above named Holders of the said Bonds will receive payment in full together with interest on or after the 1st April, 1899.

By Order,
R. H. CUMMING, Secretary,
Karachi Port Trust.
Port Trust Office, Karachi, 18th March, 1899.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

ICTORIA, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India.

Petition for Letters of Administration of the Trust Property and Credits standing in the name of PURSHOTUM NARUNJI DAWDA, late of Bombay, Hindoo Inhabitant, deceased.

NARUNJI SOOKHA DAWDA, father of the deceased .....Petitioner.

ALL PERSONS claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the abovenamed deceased, are hereby cited to come and see the Proceedings if they think fit, before the Grant of Letters of Administration.

Witness, Henry James Parsons, Esquire, Acting Chief Justice at Bombay aforesaid, the 18th day of March in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Nine and in the Sixty-second year of our Reign.

L. N. BANAJI,
Registrar.

The Seal of the High Court Bombay.

D. B. BINNING,
The 18th day of March, 1899.

Messrs. CHITNIS, MOTILAL & MALVI,
Attorneys for Petitioner.

THE ASSOCIATED VINEYARD CULTIVATORS CO.'S

BEEHIVE BRANDY.

This BRANDY is much approved in GREAT BRITAIN, AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA, and has been recognized for upwards of a century. It needs only to be tasted to be appreciated. Rs. 2-4 per Bottle.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TIVOLI THEATRE.

NEXT
MONDAY NIGHT,
MARCH 27.
At 9-30 o'clock.
FAREWELL
TO
LINCOLN
AND
LAUGHTER.
NEW FEATURES.

PRICES:—Rs. 3, 2 and 1.
Plan at SOUNDY and Co.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

A DIVIDEND has been declared for the half-year ended 31st December, 1898, at the rate of eight per cent per annum, and will be payable on and after the 25th instant, to the Proprietors Registered in the Books of the Bank on the 16th Instant.

By order of the Board,
H. CHALMERS,
Manager.
Bombay, 24th March, 1899.

NOTICE.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LD., will be CLOSED on MONDAY the 27th instant, that day being a holiday under the "Negotiable Instruments Act of 1881."

F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.

SALES BY AUCTION.

BENNETT AND COMPANY,
No. 22, APOLLO STREET.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, the 25th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at their rooms, the surplus stock of Messrs. H. Ditmar and Co. consisting of rich glassware, flower pots, glass decanters, cheese stands, Japanese flower vases, hurricane lamps, etc.

The above is on view.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, the 25th instant, Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction at their Rooms a quantity of grey and coloured piece-goods, etc., etc.

AT 1-30 P.M.

1 handsome strong dog-cart in very good order.
1 handsome strong landau in very good order.
1 a condhand strong office shigram in good order.
1 grey Arab, quiet in harness.
1 bay waler, quiet in harness and saddle.
1 bay waler gelding, 15-3, 5 years, good mover, quiet in harness, believed to be sound, open to veterinary examination.

On SUNDAY, the 26th instant, at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at Bandra, opposite Slaughter-House, very valuable and handsome teak and blackwood French-polished household furniture made by Madrasi carpenters, such as sliding dining table, sideboard with mirror, set of drawing-room sofas with tapestry lining, cabinet, centre tables, hall couches, 1 hand and foot Singer's sewing machine, 1 14 days' table clock strikes half hour and hour, black single and double bedsteads with cotton mattresses, mirrors, almyrah and wardrobes, 2 large size Agra jail-made carpets &c., &c., the property of a gentleman leaving India.

Catalogues are published and the property is on view.

GRAND CLEARING SALE OF AUSTRALIAN HORSES,

Messrs. BENNETT and Co. have been instructed by Mr. G. Hunter to sell by Public Auction on SUNDAY, the 26th inst. at 3-30 p.m., at Messrs. R. SCOTT and Co's Stables, Bellasis Road, Byculla, the whole of his remaining batch of horses, including pairs and single harness horses, chargers etc. etc., broken and unbroken, numbering above 20 heads. The above horses, both as regards breeding and soundness, will be found on inspection one of the best batches ever offered by auction in Bombay, and intending purchasers will be allowed veterinary inspection.

The horses are now on view.

On MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 1 p.m. Messrs. BENNETT and Co are instructed to sell by Public Auction at Dongerey Road, Malabar Hill, the very valuable latest designed handsome blackwood and teakwood plain and carved French-polished household furniture, glass and crockeryware, by Treacher, platedware by Elkinton and Mappin, Persian carpets, oilpainting, pictures, rich table ornaments and flower vases, etc., the property of W. F. O. DONOGHUE Esq.

Catalogues are published, and the property is on view.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On WEDNESDAY, the 29th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the 2nd floor of White House, near Apollo Bunder, very valuable and handsome teak and blackwood household furniture, rich glass, plated and crockeryware, table ornaments, hanging and table lamps by R. Ditmar and Co., oil paintings and pictures, English carpets, one ebonized cottage piano by Soundy and Co. in very good order, etc., etc., the property of P. LLEWELLYN, Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On THURSDAY, the 30th inst., at 1 p.m. Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at St. Vincents, Malabar Hill, the very valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood plain and carved French-polished household furniture made to order, best platedware, rich crockery and glassware, handsome China and Japanese vases, rich table ornaments, first-rate pictures and oleographs, &c. &c the property of Major H. P. DIMMOCK, I. M. S., changing residence.

Catalogues will be published and the plants will be on view 4 days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

AUCTION SALE OF A VALUABLE LARGE GARDEN.

On THURSDAY, the 30th inst. at 7-30 a.m., Messrs. BENNETT & Co. will sell by Public Auction at St. Vincents, Malabar Hill, a large collection of choice and rare plants in tubs and pots, consisting of anthuriums, begonias, crotons, lilies, gold ferns, Ceylon palms, Poona standard roses, orchids, a large fern house, garden tools, etc., etc., the property of Major H. P. DIMMOCK, I. M. S. changing residence.

Catalogues will be published and the plants will be on view 4 days before the sale.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

AUCTION SALE OF A VALUABLE LARGE GARDEN.

On FRIDAY, the 31st inst., at 7-30 a.m. Messrs BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction, at 2, Nepean Sea Road, Malabar Hill, a large collection of choice and rare plants in tubs and pots, consisting of anthuriums, begonias, crotons, lilies, Ceylon palms, Poona standard roses, orchids, fern house, garden tools etc. etc, the property of ALEX M TOD, Esq.

Catalogues will be published and the plants will be on view four days before the sale

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On SUNDAY, the 2nd proximo, at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at No 4, Chuckla Street, opposite the Crawford Market, the whole of the stock-in-trade of Messrs. Peerco Dossa and Co., consisting of drawing-room suites, bed-room, dining-room and office furniture, carpets, a sweet-toned mahogany cottage piano in good order, clothes and gown presses, almyrahs, dinner waggons, dumbwaiters, dressing and wash-hand marble topped tables, camp cots, jardiniers, meatsafes, towel horses &c. &c.

The property will be on view 4 days before the sale.

ON COMMISSION SALE.

The property of a gentleman—

1 really new mahogany full-size 1 slate billiard table by John Roberts with pool and pyramid balls, cues, marking board &c, complete,

1 handsome strong English-built victoria by Burlington Carriage Company,

BENNETT & CO.
Bombay, March 24th, 1899.

MENIST'S SPECTACLES.
MARCKS & CO.'S SPECTACLES.

WE beg to bring to the notice of the SPECTACLE wearing community, our following revised PRICE LIST:—

Menist's Spectacles.	Gold. Rs.	Silver Rs.	Steel. Rs.
With Turnpin Sides	60	23	16
With Single temple Sides	50	24	16
Solders	50	23	16

Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs. 5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on steel. The new Solid and Steel "Movilletts" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

All the newest patterns in Frames always in stock. REPAIRS EXECUTED by the most EXPERIENCED WORKMEN at reasonable rates. OCULISTS PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

SPECIAL.

Our celebrated, VIOLET TINTED, SUN, GLARE and DUST GLASSES, are invaluable to people, who suffer from the extreme glare of a tropical climate. May be purchased in either Steel, Nickel, Silver or Gold Frames, Japanese cups, nickel gauze cups, Stirrups with folding sides, folders and Globula, Spectacles from Rs. 5 per pair.

MARCKS & Co., LD.,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

FOR SALE.—A Standard Indian sympathetic overstrung walnut square piano by Scheidmayer and Soehne, Stuttgart, the property of F. W. ENGLISH, Esq., gone to England, Price Rs. 600—MARKS & Co., Limited, Bombay.

FOR SALE.—Upright COTTAGE PIANO, by SOUNDY and Co., only 6 months in use, price Rs. 450. Apply to "B. M.," care of this Paper.

HAVE you seen the latest SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES? If not call at 5, Church Gate Street, where on looking at it you will find that it is a Machine that surpasses any other Sewing Machine in Simplicity, Durability, Silence and Speed. SINGER and Co., Bombay.

TEAS! TEAS! HUGE REDUCTIONS in Superb Teas of the Bombay Tea Association, Ld., for few days only. Nevir 25 per cent less. In 1lb. tins at the following reduced rates: Re. 1, annas 12, 9, 8, 6 per lb. loose in bulk less 1 anna per lb. MORTON MAJU & Co., Agents, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

EVERY HOUSEHOLD should keep ready at hand a Jar of BAEL FRUIT PRESERVE, manufactured from fresh Fruit only by THOMSON TAYLOR. Is the best remedy for Diarrhœa and Dysentery, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

WORTH TRYING.—Our Navy Blue Serge Suits, Rs. 35; Tennis Flannel Suits, Rs. 30; Dress Dinner Jackets, Rs. 40; Soft Fronted Shirts, Stiff Cuffs, 6 for Rs. 24; Evening Dress Suits, Rs. 85; Dress Shirts, 6 for Rs. 30; Best West End Styles. ASQUITH and LORD, Apollo Street.

DON'T Economize at the Expense of your Health. Drink only DANTRA'S PURE GROUND MOCHA COFFEE, at Re. 1-4 per lb. It is daily roasted and ground from Genuine Mocha berries in the latest pattern closed Cylinders under our own supervision and immediately packed in air-tight tins the fine aroma is preserved. Its unquestionable purity, rich flavour, full strength and uniform quality have established for it a reputation second to none in the market. A trial solicited.—N. B. DANTRA and Co., Tea and Coffee Merchants, 33, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

YACHT CLUB REGATTA—Capital Instantaneous Photographs of all the Boats that took part, including several of the starts, now on view, at the ROYAL YACHT CLUB and ART PHOTOGRAPHIC SALON, RAJA DEEN DAYAL & SONS, Hornby Row, Bombay.

£2,000,000 Proposals were received by the STANDARD in 1897 and Policies for over £1,800,000 were issued. Apply STANDARD LIFE OFFICE, Bombay.

MATHERAN—TO LET.—"Khushroo Lodge," "Jewajee Hall," and "Green Wood." Large, comfortable, well furnished, airy, commanding charming views, and most centrally situated BUNGALOWS on the hill. For Rent and other particulars apply to PROPRIETORS, Rugby Hotel, Matheran.

TRY! TRY!! Cure yourself and then pay the Fees as agreement. PILES!!! worst disease cured within eight days. Particulars, apply F. R. IRANEE, 437 Thakordwar, Bombay.

RIPON HOTEL, MAHABLESHWAR.—Mrs. Shephard Expresses herself much pleased with the accommodation &c. at the Hotel and will be happy to recommend it to anyone who may be going to Mahableshwar.

MATHERAN—GRANVILLE HOTEL is a First-Class European Hotel, occupying the highest and coolest position. Extensive improvements introduced at great expense for the Comfort of Visitors.

WANTED, by Widow Lady, SITUATION, as BOOK-KEEPER, CLERK, OR DAILY GOVERNESS, qualified.—Address "25, care of this Office.

REPORTER.—WANTED, fully competent European or Anglo-Indian SHORTHAND REPORTER for daily newspaper in India. Address, stating salary required and qualifications, "Box 253," care of this Office.

WANTED, EMPLOYMENT—A YOUNG MAN (matriculated) age 23, seeks engagement as CLERK or COPYIST in any Railway, Mills, Presses, or Mercantile firm. Good handwriting, sober habits, and highest credentials, 5 years' previous experience. Good linguist fluently conversant with Portuguese, Goanese, Tamil, Malliyalum, Hindustani and Marathi. Willing to travel to any part of India. Address "S A M," care of this Paper.

JUST received 8 days' winding Silver watches, open-faced, Rs. 60; Hunters, Rs. 80. These watches will stand any climate and rough use.—STEFFENAUER and Co., Fort, Bombay.

AN English and European person is willing to take a SITUATION either as Nurse, Nursery Governess, Lady's Help, or a School Matron. Now available. Up-country preferred. Address No. "87," care of this Office.

THE INDIAN RAILWAY GUIDE.—An indispensable Book for Travellers in India and the East, contains the Special Time and Fare Tables of all the Indian Railway Companies, the Steamer Routes in India, and the Eastern Seas, and other useful information. Price 9 Annas. Coloured Map of India revised from Official Sources, To be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Office, and at all Booksellers and Railway Termini.

MESSRS. OLIVER & Co.—Only Respectable and Trustworthy Servants, Clerks, Peons, &c., &c., of all denominations supplied. The original and only firm that supplies thoroughly efficient and reliable High Class Domestic Servants. Patronized by the Officers of the Services (Army and Navy) as well as the Leading Clubs and Hotels. Especially First Class Portuguese Servants for whom we guarantee and hold ourselves responsible. Fee Rs. 2 each servant. No. 4, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay. N.B.—Beware of the so-called Registry Offices.

WILL FORMS of DIFFERENT KINDS. Price 8 Annas. Can be had at the "Bombay Gazette" Office.

WM. HUTCHINSON and Co., East India Merchants and Agents, undertake all Agency business. 1, Trafalgar Buildings, Charing Cross, London.

VOICE from Madras.—C. Green, Esq., Retired Salt Officer and Secy. to Rajah Venecoopala Bahadur, writes on 19th May, 1893:—I suffered with fever for 19 days and had two doctors in attendance, but their Medicines did me no good. I was then recommended to try Batliwalla's Ague Mixture and with few doses the fever left me and I have had no return of it since. . . . Batliwalla and Co.'s Choleral is as effective in Cholera as Batliwalla's Ague Pills or Mixture are effective in fevers. It has never failed in cases of Cholera, and you are requested to send for its testimonials. Batliwalla's Ague Pills or Mixture and Batliwalla and Co.'s Choleral are sold everywhere, at Re. 1 per bottle, or are sent by Dr. BATLIWALLA, Worlee, Dadur, Bombay, Discount to the Trade.

PIANO and SINGING TAUGHT by a Lady, trained under well-known masters—has had much experience in voice production. Apply "ARIA," care of Messrs. Rose and Co., Rampart Row.

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GENUINE AMERICAN SNOWFLAKE OIL, 1890, sold by STANDARD OIL Co., of New York, at their Godowns, at Mazagon, and by Messrs. Kemp and Co., Ld., Messrs. Phillips and Co., Ld., and Messrs. Currimbhai Hirji, at Rs. 5-0-2 per case, in Bombay, and by Mr. J. C. Bhut, at Rs. 5-1-2 per case, at Bandora.

OVERLAND SUMMARY, published Weekly on the Departure of English Mail, 28 pages of the "Pall Mall Budget" size, containing all the information of the previous week, carefully arranged. Army Orders, &c., Indian Subscription, Rs. 12 per year, free of Postage, English Subscription, Rs. 15 per year, including Postage.

EK DAM: RINGWORM SPECIFIC.—The only Remedy known which cures Ringworm or Dhobies' Itch in one application. Per Bottle, As. 12. Prepared only by THOMSON and TAYLOR, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

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SPECIALITIES.

			Rs.	as.
Savoys, Regalia de Preferencia in boxes of	50	per box	14	0
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MANILA CIGARS.
"FLOR DE LA ISABELA" FACTORY,

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These can be recommended as good smokes:—					
Regalia Antonio Lopez in boxes of 50 with rings			per box	11	0
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Isabels	do.	50	do.	7	8
Exquisitas	do.	50	do.	7	0
Princessas (small size)	do.	50	do.	5	0
Little Devils	do.	50	do.	3	0
Club Londres	do.	100	do.	7	0
Neuvo Habano Especial	do.	100	,,	6	0
Habano 1A (extra large size)		100	,,	6	8
Habano 2A	do.	100	,,	4	8
Cartado 1A	do.	100	,,	6	8

The above cigars, imported by us only, are of excellent quality, and rich in flavour, forming a delightful and popular smoke. A discount of 10 per cent. is allowed for all the above on orders for 500 cigars and upwards.

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IN 1, 5 and 10 lbs. AIR-TIGHT ROUND TIN BOXES.

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ROYAL ORANGE PEKOE .....per lb.	2	0	0	ORANGE PEKOE .....per lb.	1	0
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Our 12 years' standing in the Trade is a sufficient guarantee for the Genuine and Superior Quality and Moderate Prices of our Teas. Discount allowed to Messes, Clubs, Merchants and other large buyers.
All orders executed with care and promptitude. A trial earnestly solicited.

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THE NEW BRAIN AND NERVE FOOD.

This remarkable compound, the result of the latest developments and achievements of modern chemistry, pharmacology, and therapeutics, is without equal in all cases of defective nerve and brain power, whether induced by worry, over-work, unhealthy climate, dissipation, excess, youthful imprudence, or other influences incidental to the haste and waste of overstrain of modern life. Sleeplessness, tremblings, palpitation, nervous dyspepsia, low spirits, delusions, mental and bodily prostration, muscular and local weakness, general and nervous debility, faulty nutrition, premature decay or deficiency of the vital forces, physical incapacity, waste of vitality, harassing dreams, night disturbances, sudden startings, dimness of sight, defective hearing, loss of memory, inability either to perform the various duties of life, or to enjoy its pleasures, restlessness that can settle to nothing, irritability of temper, female complaints, hysteria, painful periods, backache, bearing down sensations, nervous headache, wasting disease, consumption, night sweats, &c., are all so many different phases of brain and nerve exhaustion, the cause of by far the greater portion of the misery, ill-health, and despondency by which we are confronted on every hand, that can only be successfully combated by the use of this highly scientific preparation. Bracing up the system generally, it gives tone to the exhausted nerves, arrests all weakening wasting discharges, involuntary losses, &c.; restores the failing powers, and imparts new life and energy to what had so recently seemed worn-out, "used up," and valueless.

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Never before was there anything like it, nor can its marvellous properties ever be equalled in all cases of poorness, impurity, or other imperfection of the blood from whatever cause arising. No sooner is it imbibed into the system than it permeates and penetrates to the minutest capillaries, overcoming and expelling the virus of disease, wheresoever and in whatsoever form met with: removing all blotches, pimples, scurf, scurvy, scrofulous and glandular swellings, discolorations, roughness and unsightly patches, &c., producing a soft, silky, infant-like smoothness, elasticity and clearness of complexion, skin and body. Its effects are almost magical in the treatment of gout, rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, pains and swellings of the joints, syphilis, discharges, gleet, secondary symptoms, bone disease, eczema, lepra, psoriasis, bad legs, bad breasts, abscesses, ulcers, wounds, sores, goitre or Derbyshire neck, it improves the general health, and quickly removes long-standing bronchitis, asthma, and hacking, straining, spasmodic cough, too often the precursor of consumption.

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USE THIS AND DISCARD EVERYTHING.
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PRICE Re. 1 per vial.

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BATTLE SCENES.

Rorke's Drift	By A de Neville.
Tel-el-Kebir	,, do.
Return from Inkerman	,, Miss Elizabeth Thompson.
Balaclava	,, do.
Quatre Bras	,, do.
Roll Call	,, do.
Scotland for Ever (charge of Scots Greys at Waterloo)	,, do.
To the Memory of Brave Men (Last Stand of Major Wilson)	,, Allen Stewart.
Kassassin	,, R Caton Woodville.
Storming of Badajos (1812)	,, do.
Charge of the Light Brigade	,, do.
Guns to the Front ...	,, Stanley L Wood.
Naval Heroes of Great Britain (1798)	,, Douglas Cooper.
Charge of the Heavy Brigade	,, G D Giles.
Nelson's Ship in the Battle of Trafalgar	,, J M W Turner, R. A.
Omdurman (Charge 21st Lancers)	,, Stanley Berkeley.
Atbara (Charge of the Camerons)	,, do.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Love Letter	By Luke Fildes, R. A.
Order of the Bath (Dogs)	,, C Burton-Barber.
For the Safety of the Public (A Pup muzzled)	,, E Caldwell.
A Football Match ...	,, W H Cotend.
Companion to above	,, do.
Henpecked (Dog and Hen)	,, R Morley.
Roused (Lions)	,, H Dicksie
The Captive	,, Sir Jas Millais, P R A.
The Sisters Kiss	,, Sir Fred. Leighton, P R A
Clytie ...By Lord Leighton, P R A. (His last Picture.)	
"Rosee" and "Ivy" (Companion)	By Herkomer, R A.
Corona	,, C E Perugini.
Atalanta's Race ...	,, E J Poynter, R. A.
Uncle Tom and His Wife for Sale (Dogs)	,, Sir Edwin Landseer.
Geordie Sits in Charlie's Chair (Dogs) ..	,, Ed Douglas.
Old Man's Darling (Dogs)	,, W H Trood.
A Plaintive Duet (Dogs)	,, do.
A Dead Heat (Dogs)...	,, A J Eisley
Goodbye (Dogs) ...	,, do.
"Wait a Minute" (Dogs)	,, do.
La Source	,, Marazolle.
A Credit to His Family (Dogs)	,, Stanley Berkeley.
A Disgrace to his Family (Companion to above)	,, do.
First Sight of the Fox (Pups)	,, S Carter.
The Good Shepherd...	,, W C Dodson

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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

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Reserve Fund	$ 100,00,009
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$ 100,00,00

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T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

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F. D. BARNES, Esq. (Managing Director, P. & O. S. N. Co.)
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BOMBAY AGENCY.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000; but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Received on terms which may be learnt on application.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every Description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.
Drafts granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China, and Japan.

G. H. TOWNSEND,
Agent.
47 Church Gate Street, Bombay, and at 51, Dalhousie Square, South, Calcutta.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—MADRAS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1885,

BRANCHES at Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Kurrachee, Rawalpindi, and London.

	Rs.
PAID-UP CAPITAL	0,00,000
RESERVES AND REST	13,37,417
SECURITY PROVIDED FOR DEPOSITORS...	53,37,417

CURRENT ACCOUNTS receive 2 per cent. per annum up to Rs. 10,000 in the event of the balance not falling below Rs. 50.

STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS for Home Remittances receive 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS.—Receipts issued for 21 months at 6 cent., 12 months at 5 1-2 per cent., 9 months at 5 per cent., 6 months at 4 1-2 per cent. per annum.

Special rates are given for Short Terms Deposits during the busy season.

PRUDENTIAL OR PROVIDENT FUND.—Sums as small as Rs. 10 are received, carrying 5 per cent. interest, compounded half-yearly.

N. B.—The Bank will also transfer sums for Deposit or Credit in London, carrying interest from date of transfer in India.

Accounts are opened and Receipts issued in the name of "either or survivor."

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIS and CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle are collected and credited, free of charge, in any of the Interest Deposit Accounts.

CREDITS, LOANS, BILLS, and PROMISSORY NOTES negotiated.

INVESTMENT ORDERS on London Stock Exchange under Code with London Branch.

Rules and Particulars obtainable at any office of the Bank.

By Order of the Board,
F. D STRANACK,
Manager.
Bombay, 1st January, 1899.

SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
No

BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, Ld.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £250,000

HEAD OFFICE :
37 THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.

BRANCHES :
Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Eliya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombasa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives DEPOSITS FIXED for one year and shorter periods, at Rates of Interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....£1,114,625
PAID-UP CAPITAL £562,500
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £562,500

HEAD OFFICE:
40, Threadneedle Street, London, E. C.

LONDON BANKERS:
The Bank of England.
The London Joint Stock Bank.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES :
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, COLOMBO, KANDY, GALLE, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, and SHANGHAI.

The Bank negotiates and collects Bills and grants Drafts payable at its Head Office and Branches, and issues Letters of Credit for the use of Travellers
The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms :—

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. on the daily balance if not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000. Sums over Rs. 1,00,000 will be received on terms to be ascertained on application.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Fixed Deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum.
Rates for Deposits for shorter periods may be learned on application.
The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks and Shares and receives same for safe custody, realising interest and dividends when due

J. K. MOIR,
Manager.
Elphinstone Circle, Bombay.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

HEAD OFFICE :—14, Rue Bergere,
LONDON 52 —Threadneedle Street, E.C
LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL ...Frs. 1,00,000,000 (£4,000,000)

LONDON BANKERS:—
BANK OF ENGLAND.
UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta, Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tamanarive.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are Opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the chief Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 2, Place de l'Opera, in the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof wherein travellers can deposit valuables which they do not wish to keep in the Hotels, further Strong Rooms for the storage of heavy luggage, etc.

Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper, and other Stocks cashed for Customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on Government Paper Gold, Silver, and Produce.

W. LLEWELLYN,
Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL..... Yens 12,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL ..... ,, 10,500,000
RESERVE FUND ..... ,, 6,960,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:
Kobe London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco Hawaii, Shanghai, and Hongkong.

BANKERS—The LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.
The UNION BANK of LONDON, AND THE PARIS BANK, LIMITED.
BOMBAY AGENCY.

LIBERAL INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNT and FIXED DEPOSITS, on Terms to be learnt on application.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on JAPAN and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

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Agent.
Albert Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

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Guarantees Against Embezzlement.

INDIAN GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION.

HEAD OFFICE, ORIENTAL BUILDINGS, BOMBAY.

Funds in Government Securities only, and remain in India.

THE Association provides Security for the Intermission and Fidelity of Persons in situations of Trust and Responsibility.

For Prospectuses and Proposal Forms apply to

McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F.I.A.
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CALEDONIAN INSURANCE COMPANY.

FOUNDED 1805.
THE OLDEST SCOTTISH INSURANCE OFFICE
HEAD OFFICE : 19, George Street, Edinburgh.
FIRE RESERVE FUNDS..... £577,096

Fire Insurances accepted on approved property, at Current Rates.

C. MACDONALD & Co,
Agents in Bombay.
28, Apollo Street.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.,

VETERINARY AND COMMISSION STABLES

Girgaum, and 223, Bellasis Road, Byculla.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (30), and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charged extra.

	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including Syce per mensem	25
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17
Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

CRUSHED FOOD, OATS, BRAN, &c., Supplied.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 1m. Sun sets, 6h. 12m. High water, 9-51m., 10-15a. Low water, 3-42m., 3-32a.
P. and O. s. s. Caledonia, with English mails of the 10th inst., due to arrive, daylight.
Departure of the Troopship Dilwara.
Art Society's Exhibition, Town Hall.
Teachers' Association, St. Xavier's College, monthly meeting, 5-15 p.m.
Bombay Medical Society, University Library, 5-15 p.m.
Wilson Philological Lecture, University Hall, 5-15 p.m.
J. N. Petit Institute, annual meeting, 5-30 p.m.
B. B. R. A. Society meeting, 5-30 p.m.
Tivoli Theatre, Nellie Watson's Novelties, 9-30 p.m.
Music on the Esplanade, 5-45 p.m.

VACCINATION.—Animal vaccination will be carried by the Bombay Vaccine Department at the Bandora Municipal Office on Sunday, between the hours of 8 and 11 a.m.

B. B. R. A. SOCIETY.—A meeting of the society will be held, this afternoon, at 5-30, when the following paper will be read :—"The Etymology of the Names of a Few Cities of Central and Western Asia," by Mr. Jivanji Jamshedji Modi.

BOMBAY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—At the monthly meeting of the Association to be held this evening, at 5-15, at St. Xavier's College, Mr. M. K. Patel, B. A., will read a paper on "The University in its Relation to Schools."

POSTAL NOTICES.—Mails for Singapore, China and Japan, per extra s. s. Bormida, will be closed at the General Post Office at 1 p. m., to-morrow.—Mails for Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, China, Japan, and Australia, per s. s. Coromandel, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 6 p.m., on Tuesday next.

SOLICITORS' EXAMINATION.—An examination of articled clerks will be held in the office of the Commissioner, High Court, on Wednesday, the 12th; Thursday, the 13th; Friday, the 14th; and Saturday, the 15th days of April. The examiners are Messrs. A. K. Oliver, Master in Equity; E. B. Raikes, Clerk of the Crown; and Mr. E. C. B. Acworth, Solicitor.

A FRAUDULENT SERVANT.—Dadabhoy Ruttonji, a telegram writer at Pydhownie, has reported to the police that, on the 21st instant, he entrusted his servant with Rs. 25 for the purpose of sending a money order, but the man absconded with the money, and no trace of him could be obtained.

PARTIAL COLLAPSE OF A HOUSE.—The west wall of a two-storeyed house, belonging to Abdul Rahiman Haji Noormahomed, in Memonwada Road, collapsed on Wednesday, and fell on to the roof of an adjoining house, damaging it. The tenants in both the houses escaped unhurt. The municipal authorities were informed, and the tenants were ordered to vacate, which they did.

FIRE IN A COTTON PRESS.—A fire broke out amongst a quantity of loose cotton in the Gokuldas Callianji Cotton Press, at Lower Colaba, on Wednesday. On the alarm being given, a number of labourers assembled on the spot and put out the flames by means of their fire-extinguishing appliances. The damage done by fire and water is estimated at Rs. 2,000. The cause of the fire is due to friction.

A WOMAN SERIOUSLY BURNT.—Frances, a Goanese woman, aged forty years, wife of Pascal Fernandez, of Gilder Street, was, on Wednesday afternoon, removed to the J. J. Hospital, suffering from severe burns on her body, caused by her saree accidentally catching fire at the fire-place, while engaged in cooking, on the evening of the 14th instant. The woman has been detained for treatment in the hospital. The occurrence was not reported to the police until the woman was removed to the hospital.

MUSIC ON THE ESPLANADE.—The Band of the 21st Bombay Infantry will play following programme of music, under the direction of Bandmaster J. Maltandaine, at the Esplanade Bandstand, this evening, at 5-45 :—

March	With Flying Colours	Unrath
Fantastic Dance	Dodo	Buck
Selection	I Lombardi	Verdi
Valse	Grossat-kinder	Estrus
Selection	Songs and Dances, Northern Europe	Kuhner
Polka	Tout à La Joie	Fahrbach

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

ALLEGED EXTORTION BY A MUNICIPAL SUB-INSPECTOR.

At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Superintendent Nolan prosecuted Arthur Luxia, a municipal sub-inspector, before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, on a charge of receiving an illegal gratification from a woman, named Baya, and extortion. Mr. DeSouza, pleader, defended the accused. The complainant in her information stated that she was the wife of one Shunker, a dealer in firewood, and resided with her husband at Chinchpoogli. The accused was a sub-inspector in the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality, but was at present on special plague duty. On the morning of the 13th instant complainant, Baya, and her old mother-in-law, named Thowbai, were seated in the firewood depot, when accused, who was then dressed in European costume, went up to them. He was accompanied by a police ramosee, and there was an empty cart with him. The accused told Baya that as she and the members of her family had not yet removed themselves from the depot to the health camp, he would have to force them to do so. He then threatened to take them away with their kits. Baya asked accused to wait till the return of her husband, who was then absent from the depot. The accused then told the complainant's mother-in-law, Thowbai, that as complainant had not given him any money, he would take them to the camp. How was it, he asked, that while others gave him money, the complainant had not yet done so. He further stated that if the complainant would give him Rs. 5, he would not take them or remove their goods and chattels to the health camp. Upon this complainant's mother-in-law offered to pay him eight annas. The accused refused to take it. Fearing that she might be removed to the camp, complainant in the presence of a neighbour, named Rahiman, handed a sum of Rs. 5 to her mother-in-law. The neighbour took one rupee out of Rs. 5 from the old woman's hand and gave it to the accused, telling him at the same time to see the complainant's husband when he returned home in the evening and settle with him. He accepted the one rupee and left the place, taking with him the police ramosee and the empty cart. On her husband returning home in the evening, complainant informed him of what had happened. The husband informed the police. Superintendent Nolan, after investigating the matter, placed the parties before the Commissioner of Police. The latter, after hearing the complaint, referred complainant to a presidency magistrate. On the 15th instant Bayabai filed an information before Mr. P. H. Dastur, charging the accused with extortion and receiving illegal gratification. The Magistrate ordered a warrant to be issued, and the accused was arrested on the following day and released on bail.

The evidence of the complainant, her mother-in-law, the police ramosee, and of the neighbour was recorded.

The accused admitted having gone to the complainant's house and asked the complaint's mother-in law whether the people were still residing in the house, and if so to go to the Narelwady Segregation Camp. He denied having demanded any money from the complainant, or receiving one rupee, as deposed by her. It was true that he sent for one cart, but the Ramosee brought four by mistake. He further stated that he did not take the woman to the segregation camp, in the absence of her husband, as he did not like to take the responsibility upon his shoulders.

The Magistrate framed a charge against the accused of extortion. The case was adjourned for the defence.

DIVINE SERVICE.

SAINT THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.
LENTEN SERVICE.—FRIDAY, MARCH 24.
8-30 p.m.—Litany and Sermon.
SATURDAY, MARCH 25.
Festival of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
7-15 a.m.—Holy Communion (Choral) Merbecke. Hymns 449, 450 and 402.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, COLABA.
(Afghan Memorial Church.)
SATURDAY, MARCH 25.
Festival of the Annunciation of B. V. M.
7-30 a.m.—Matins.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
4-30 p.m.—Evensong.

ADVICE to Mothers?—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasent to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as bright as a button. It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers every where at is 1½d per bottle.

HIGH COURT.—ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE B. TYABJEE).

THE VALUE OF A FINGER, Rs. 4,000 AWARDED.

HERBERT BROMLEY VS. THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

His lordship delivered judgment in this case. The plaintiff, a dental surgeon, brought this suit to recover from the G. I. P. Railway Company Rs. 4,000 as damages for injury to his finger. Mr. Macpherson and Mr. Scott, instructed by Messrs. Smetham, Bland and Noble, appeared for the plaintiff, and the Hon. Mr. Lang and Mr. Lowndes instructed by Messrs. Little and Co., appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Justice B. Tyabjee in delivering judgment, said: This suit is filed by the plaintiff to recover the sum of Rs. 4,000 as damages sustained by the plaintiff by reasons of the injuries caused to the third finger of his right hand by alleged negligence of the Company. The facts of the case may be shortly summarised as follows:—The plaintiff is a dental surgeon, carrying on business in Poona and Bombay, in copartnership with Mr. Charles Elford, the Poona Branch being usually conducted by the plaintiff, and the Bombay Branch by his partner Mr. Elford. On the 13th October 1898 the plaintiff left Poona for Bombay by the 9-30 p.m. train. He travelled in a first class carriage, and in the same compartment there was Mr. Saunders, an assistant in Messrs. Treacher and Co. Mr. Saunders alighted at the Khandalla Station and the door of the compartment was left open. This door was not shut or fastened by any of the servants of the railway company and appears to have been broken or torn away from the carriage just before the accident in question happened. The circumstances leading up to the accident are described by the plaintiff in his evidence in the following words:—"I remember the 13th of October last. I travelled from Poona by the 9-30 p.m. train in a first class compartment. One gentleman, Mr. Saunders of Treacher and Co., was with me. I went to sleep. I was asleep when the train arrived at Khandalla. I was not conscious of Saunders leaving the carriage. I awoke with a start, and I saw the door was gone except the sunshade—the green part of the sunshade at the top. I saw it from the shaded gas light in the carriage, flapping about. It seemed to be flapping against, something. Banging is the appropriate word. I could not say what it was banging against or banging to the door post and back. I got up, and as the door came to, I went up to the door, and as the piece of the door came towards me, I took hold of it. When I seized the door, it nipped my finger. I can't say how the door nipped my finger. It was all done of a sudden. I find the time from leaving Khandalla to the place where we stopped before the catch-siding is about four and a half minutes. I felt the door nip me. It was not a pleasant feeling. I was in great pain, not at the moment but after the pain gradually increased until I got to Karjat. After I got nipped, I let go. It was done in a second, I don't know whether I got hold of the door. I got out at the Reversing Station, and told the guard and asked him for water. He brought a pail of water The guard tied up the door remaining with his pocket handkerchief to prevent its swinging open. I then went on to Karjat. The door was fastened up with wire at Karjat." In cross-examination the plaintiff said that when the accident happened he could not remember whether the shade was on or not. The door was at the end of the carriage. The door that flew open was on the left hand side. Seeing that the shade was flapping, witness got hold of it. He awoke and heard the noise of the sunshade. The noise was caused through the remnants of the door hitting against the tunnel and flapping against the carriage.

His lordship proceeded to say: The above evidence which is uncontradicted and was given in a fair and ingenuous manner seems to me to establish the following facts:—(1) that the door was broken away in consequence of its having been left open, or not fastened, at the Khandalla Station; (2) that a sense of great present discomfort and a vague feeling of possible or impending danger crossed Mr. Bromley's mind when he was startled by the noise and saw the door gone; (3) that it was with a view to get rid of this inconvenient and real or supposed danger that the plaintiff attempted to seize and secure the sunshade or the remnant of the door; (4) that it was in consequence of this attempt that he was injured. The question for determination then is, "Is the Company liable to the plaintiff under the above circumstances." Now, a series of cases have laid it down and indeed it was not disputed before me, that it is the duty of the Railway to see that the doors of the carriages are properly shut and fastened before the train leaves any particular station. (Here his lordship referred to several English cases.) The cases clearly established that leaving the door open or unfastened amounts to negligence on the part of the Railway Company for the consequences of which the Company is liable to the passengers. These cases and other cases seem to me to establish the legal propositions that if any inconvenience or danger is caused by the negligence of the Company a passenger may lawfully attempt to get rid of such inconvenience or danger, provided that in doing so he runs no obvious risk disproportionate to the inconvenience or danger, and is not himself guilty of any negligence, and that if in such attempt he is injured, the Company is liable in damages, the *onus* of proving the Company's negligence or course lies on the plaintiff, but the *onus* of proving the passenger's negligence is on the defendants. The first question then which I have to consider, is:—Was there any sufficient inconvenience or danger to the plaintiff caused by the breaking away of the door or the banging of the sunshade which he was entitled to get rid of? Now Mr. Bromley's evidence merely states the facts. He either did not or could not analyse his own motives and feelings before he attempted to secure the sunshade. He is evidently not of any analytical turn of mind and had some difficulty in placing before the Court clearly the reasons which must have influenced his conduct. It seems to me, however, a fair inference from his evidence and conduct that he must have apprehended a great inconvenience from the noise caused by the banging of the sunshade and a possible impending danger from its striking against the tunnel or the side of the carriage itself. This state of things was admittedly produced by the defendant's negligence in not fastening the door at Khandalla. It follows that Mr. Bromley was *prima facie* justified in attempting to remove this inconvenience and possible danger, though the extent and magnitude of it has not been already explained to the Court and was from the very nature of the case capable of being accurately ascertained or gauged at the time. Did he then run a risk disproportionate to the inconvenience and danger he was trying to remedy? What he attempted to do was to seize the flapping or banging sunshade in order to secure it in the same way. He evidently did not consider there was any danger in doing so, and I am unable to see that there was any obvious danger in what he was doing. Was he then negligent in the mode in which he was carrying out his intentions? I cannot see how else he could have attempted to catch hold of the sunshade than he did? He had no other means to lay hold of it than his own hands, and he used them so far as he could see in the ordinary way without any sense of danger. Were there then any surrounding circumstances which made his act an act of negligence? It is true that the lamps were shaded and it was dark in the tunnel, but Mr. Bromby says, and I see no reason to doubt it, that he could distinctly see what he was attempting to catch. As to his statement that he would not like to say that he was fully awake before he was pinched, I think it must not be taken too literally against him. This statement was evidently not meant seriously and the words were put into his mouth in cross-examination and were asserted by him in a humourous rather than a serious spirit. The only other circumstance relied on by the defendants is that Mr. Bromley knew the ground well, and that if he had thought for a moment he would have seen that he was near the Reversing Station, and that he ought to have waited till the train stopped, instead of trying to secure the sun shade himself. There is no doubt much force in this argument. Mr. Bromley admits that he acted on the spur of the moment, that he had no time to think, and that the whole thing was done, suddenly and without stopping to consider the bearings of all the surrounding circumstances. I am, however, of opinion that, even after giving the fullest benefit to the defendants of Mr. Bromley's admissions it would not be just to attribute any negligence to Mr. Bromley for what he did. It seems to be that considerable allowances must be made for a passenger who is suddenly startled from his sleep, with the door of the carriage smashed, and the remnant of the sunshade making a hideous noise (such as it made before me when produced in court), and possibly striking against the tunnel. Whether there was any great actual or real danger in all this I am unable to say. There is no evidence on the point, and I am left to draw my own inferences aided by nothing better than my own experiences, but that Mr. Bromley must have felt a sense of possible, though perhaps a vague and indefinite danger, I cannot for a moment doubt. Under the circumstances, would it be reasonable to hold that Mr. Bromley ought to have remained quiet and done nothing till he got to the Reversing station? As a matter of fact, he did not know where he was. He could no doubt by a process of reasoning have discovered that he was near the Reversing station. But under the circumstances, was it negligent of him to act in the way he did? In other words, was there any thing unreasonable in his immediately trying to avert a great present inconvenience from the hideous noise, and an immediate or possible danger from the sunshade stricking against the tunnel or even against the side of the carriage? I am fully persuaded that nine persons out of ten would, under the same circumstances, have done precisely what Mr. Bromley attempted to do. On the whole, therefore, I have come to the conclusion, though after much hesitation and doubt, that the injury to the plaintiff's hand was connected with, and was the result of the defendants' negligence in not fastening the door at Khandalla; and that the defendants are liable for the injuries accordingly. As to the question of damages, I accept the plaintiff's evidence in the main and I think that, under the circumstances, Rs. 2,000 for loss of income and medical charges, and Rs. 2,000 for personal suffering would not be unreasonable. I accordingly award Rs. 4,000 in all for damages, and the costs of the suit, with interest at 6 per cent per annum till payment.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER (LIGHT HORSE AND RIFLES) RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

ADDITIONAL prizes having been given, a revised list of Prize Winners &c., is now published for information :—

MATCH I CLASS A 200 AND 500 YARDS.

	Score.	Prize Rs.
Capt T M English B V R	62	*
Sergt E Chitts B V R	62	40
Cr Sergt H Black B V R	59	20
Corpl H Row B V R	58	15
Vol F Glaney B V R	56	10
Bombr M C Johnson B V A	56	10
Cr Sergt E W Thomas B V R	55	10
Vol C Gibbons B V R	55	5
Vol R Rean B V R	55	5
Sergt W G Nicoll B V R	55	5
Sergt Major J H Downing B V R	54	5

MATCH II CLASS A 500 AND 800 YARDS.

	Score.	Prize Rs.
Lce Sergt W Walmsley B V R	57	40
Capt T M English B V R	59	*
Cr Sergt W J Knight B V R	55	*
Sergt E Chitts B V R	52	*
Corpl O M P Clyne B V R	52	20
Vol A D'Silva B V R	51	15
Lieut D J Sharp B V R	51	10
Sergt Major J H Downing B V R	51	10
Sergt J W Gordon B V R	50	10
Vol E S Lynn B V R	50	5
Cr Sergt H Black B V R	49	5
Capt F W English B V R	49	5
Corpl J J D'Souza B V R	49	5

MATCH III CLASS A 600 AND 700 YARDS.

	Score.	Prize Rs.
Capt T M English B V R	60	*
Sergt J A McKinnon B V R	60	40
Vol C Gibbons B V R	58	20
Lce Sergt W Walmsley B V R	58	10
Corpl G F Lund B V R	57	10
Vol F Gidney B V R	54	10
Vol F J Good B V R	53	10
Bombr M C Johnson B V A	53	10
Vol J A D'Cruz B V R	53	5
Lieut D J Sharp B V R	53	5

MATCH IV CLASS A 600 AND 700 YARDS.

	Score.	Prize Rs.
Capt T M English B V R	60	*
Cr Serpof W J Knight B V R	58	*
Cr Sergt E W Thomas B V R	58	40
Lieut D J Sharp B V R	56	20
Sergt E Chitts B V R	56	10
Cr Sergt H Black B V R	55	10
Sergt J A McKinnon B V R	54	10
Coopl G F Lund B V R	54	10
Sergt Major J H Downing B V R	52	10
Vol J H D'Cruz B V R	52	5
Capt F W English B V R	50	5

MATCH I CLASS B 200 AND 500 YARDS.

	Score.	Prize Rs.
Vol H J Thomas B V R	55	20
Vol R Lowe B V R	54	10
Vol E Morrison B V R	49	10
Vol M A Navin B V R	47	10
Vol H E Miller B V R	45	8
Vol T Atkins B V R	44	5
Corpl G Hainsworth B V R	42	3
Sergt S Simpson B V R	41	3
Corpl S Simpson B V R	41	3
Vol J J Hemmingway B V R	41	3

MATCH II CLASS B 500 AND 800 YARDS.

	Score.	Prize Rs.
Vol H E Miller B V R	46	20
Candét A Greene B V R	45	10
Vol W G Otto B V R	43	10
Vol E Marrison B V R	41	10
Corpl M Veevers B V R	39	8
Lce Sergt Q Quintoba B V R	38	5
Vol H J Thomas B V R	36	3
Vol R Lowe B V R	34	3
Vol T Race B V R	33	3
Corpl G Hainsworth B V R	32	3

MATCH III CLASS B 300 AND 700 YARDS,

Vol A Prentice B V R...	46 Messrs Sound & Co value Rs. 50	P. ize
Corpl G Hainsworth B V R	43	20
Vol H E Miller B V R	43	10
Vol W J Otto B V R	42	11
Vol T Race B V R	41	10
Vol H J Thomas B V R	41	9
Vol H E B Nicholls B V R ...	41 Forfeits under By-law	6
Vol R Lowe B V R	41	3
Vol E Morrison B V R	37	3
Sergt S Simpson B V R	36	3

MARCH IV CLASS B 300 AND 700 YARDS,

Sergt S Simpson B V R...	49 Messrs Marcks and Co Prize value Rs,	30
Vol R Lowe B V R	43	20
Vol H Veevers B V R	41	10
Corpl M Veevers B V R	41	10
Vol T Atkins B V R	41	10
Vol J R Miller B V R	40	10
Corpl W Limpus B V R	38	5
Vol T Race B V R	37	5
Vol M H Navin B V R	37	5
Vol H J Thomas B V R	33	5

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results :—

Wards.	Plague, Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes
A Upper, Middle & Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	8	2	9
B Mandvi, Chunckla, Umarkhadi and Doogri	31	11	50
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswady, Bhuleshwar, Khara and Khumbharwada	48	6	33
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpatti, Walkeshwar and Mahalakshmi	30	16	38
E Mazagaon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	74	27	95
F Parel, Sewri and Sion	18	7	21
G Mahim and Worli	38	8	21
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	65	75
Total	247	142	340
Total plague deaths to date	40,830	35,951	
Same date, last year 1898	193	174	305

BANGALORE.

The city yesterday, returned a clean bill. From other causes there were 4 deaths. The Cantonment returned a clean bill. There were 5 deaths from other causes. In Mysore City, on Tuesday, there were 6 attacks and 5 deaths, the total deaths from all causes being 17. At the Kolar Gold Fields, on Tuesday, there were 7 attacks and 7 deaths.

BANDORA.

There were 5 attacks and 6 deaths from plague reported within the limits of the Bandora Municipality on Thursday.

DEATH OF MR. A. S. DUSTOOR CAMDIN.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Ardasir Sorabjee Dustoor Camdin, a well-known Parsee citizen, which took place yesterday afternoon, at his country residence at Murzbanabad, Andheri. Mr. Ardasir was descended from the family of the high priest of Broach, and had been residing in Bombay for many years past. He conducted a very lucrative business as muccadum to several of the mills belonging to the Petit family. He was highly respected and esteemed among his co-religionists for the great interest he evinced in the elucidation of the true tenets of the Zoroastrian religion. He offered nearly a dozen prizes for competitive essays on the doctrines of his faith; and published several of the prize essays at his own expense. Mr. Ardasir was a consistent opponent to the party who seek to establish that the date of the Jamshedi Naoroz, the 21st of March, should be reckoned as the New Year Day of the Parsees, and wrote from time to time in the public papers against the proposed innovation. Lately, he offered a prize for the préparation of an Encyclopædia in Gujerati, and the prize has been awarded to the successful competitor. Mr. Ardasir dispensed much charity in private, and was well known for his generous and humane disposition. His death is a serious loss to the Zoroastrian community. As an honorary secretary to the Society for the Amelioration of the Condition of Zoroastrians in Persia, he rendered most valuable service for a great many years. His remains were brought from Murzbanabad to Bombay, last evening, and the funeral will take place this morning.

SOW THE SEEDS of good health, prune and strengthen sickly and weak branches of the tree of life, with the aid of Holloway's World Renowned Pills and Ointment. The Pills improve the appetite, strengthen the digestion, and regulate the liver. Under treatment with the Ointment, bad legs become sound, scorbutic skins cast off their scales, and scrofulous sores cease to annoy. When rubbed upon the abdomen, it checks all tendency to irritation in the bowels, and averts diarrhœa, and other disorders of the intestines frequently prevailing through the summer and fruit seasons. Heat bumps, blotches, pimples, inflammation of the skin, and enlarged glands, can be effectively overcome by using Holloway's remedies, according to instructions given to each purchaser.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

UNIVERSITY OFFICE BEARERS.

SOME of the native journals are satisfied with the choice made by the Senate of its University officers for the current year. The *Rast Goftar* remarks :—Last week the several Faculties of the University met to elect their office-bearers for the current year. In the professional Faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Law, there was no contest. The head of the Grant Medical College was nominated Dean in Medicine, while on the Syndicate one of the most energetic and popular professors of the College, Dr. Dimmock, was elected with the well-known Dr. Temulji Nariman as his colleague. It is a matter of congratulation that harmony and concord again seem to prevail in the Faculty after years of turmoil and discord. The Faculty of Engineering evidently used a wise discretion in electing as its representatives the heads of the three largest engineering concerns in Bombay, viz. the City Improvement Trust, the Municipality and the Port Trust. In the Faculty of Law we are gratified to find that the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade was elected Dean; this high honour could not have been more worthily bestowed. As Syndics in the Faculty the Hon. Mr. Mehta and Mr. Setalvad were elected. In Mr. Mehta the Syndicate will find a useful and experienced working member.

PROFESSOR LUSTIG'S SERUM.

The *Kaiser-i-Hind* advocates a more liberal support from the authorities towards the preparation of Professor Lustig's serum :—On Monday last at a meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Mr. C. N. Wadia echoed the wishes of the public in general when he urged that the authorities of the Arthur Road Hospital should be asked to send in their reports of their experiments of Professor Lustig's serum. The statement made by the Municipal Commissioner that these experiments are being made on a very meagre scale in order to save expense was, to say the least, very derogatory to the understanding of the responsible authorities. No doubt, the serum is yet in an experimental stage, but yet very hopeful reports of its efficacy have been spread among the public and when thousands of rupees are being wasted on various fruitless efforts to drive away from our city that unwelcome visitor of ours who manages somehow to hold his own in spite of direct or indirect thrusts and sallies, would it not be prudential on the part of the authorities to sanction a little more expense after a means of remedy long-looked-forward-to and much-talked-of by the panic-stricken people? As one of our contemporaries rightly said some time ago, even if the serum were to fail, such an expenditure would be, if at all, an error in the right direction. It is to be earnestly hoped, therefore, that the serum will be prepared in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of those willing to avail themselves of this promising remedy.

ELECTION TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The *Kaiser-i-Hind* does not approve of the way in which the election of members of the Standing Committee is brought about: It is high time that some understanding should be come to with regard to the bye-election of members to the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation of Bombay. For years together the same members manage to get in through bothering the lives out of the Councillors. If a Councillor says he will not vote, so much pressure is put upon him by mutual friends that one is obliged to succumb; and though there is the ballot to protect such Councillors many are high minded persons and carry out their promises strictly. An understanding should be come to that no Councillor who has passed the President's Chair of the Corporation should be allowed to stand as a member for election to the Standing Committee. This might afford some small relief judging from present circumstances, by laying open for competition two or more seats amongst the other Councillors. What happens now is that the younger members of the Corporation however willing they may be to come forward with a view to serve on the Standing Committee, are shut out by these big wings who commanding great influence are able to obtain the necessary vote to get into the Standing Committee.

MR. JUSTICE RANADE ON THE PARSEES.

Commenting upon Mr. Justice Ranade's address at the prize distribution at the Alexandra Native Girls' English Institution, the *Rast Goftar* says:—There are, indeed, few high-minded, accomplished and sympathetic men to be found in the Hindu community like the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade. That he is at the top of the intellectual ladder of our Presidency there can be no two opinions. We are quite safe in assuming that he is a head and shoulders above some of our most talented public men in the country. It is no wonder, therefore, that his public utterances, whether as a social reformer or a freind of education, are watched with peculiar interest and satisfaction. His speech last week at the distribution of prizes at the Alexandra Girls' School was undoubtedly one of his best productions on female education, in which he takes such a keen and abiding interest. While speaking about the founder of the school—the late Mr. Manockjee Cursetjee—he paid a well merited compliment to the Parsee community who, as far as female education is concerned, are more advanced than any other community in the country. He said that "the greatest patriots, the greatest philanthropists, the greatest merchants, educationists, orators and missionaries, who have flourished on this side of India, have all belonged to this (the Parsee) community of a few handful of men." "At times," he added, "I am almost tempted to feel misgivings as to what the condition of Western India might have been but for the influence which the Parsees have exercised among us, not only in this city which is their chief home, but out side in Poona, Surat, Ahmedabad, Nagar, Mhow, Karachi, Aden, Zanzibar

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PRESUMPTIONS AND INFERENCES.

A note, based chiefly on Privy Council Judgments on the Law as to Second Appeals in India.

BY

G. C. WHITWORTH.

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NOTES.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 23.

THERE were Rs. 30,000 of Indian Council Bills allotted to Madras at yesterday's weekly sales in London, at 1s. 4 1-32d., full acceptance being given to the tenders at that rate. Telegraphic Transfers were allotted to the extent of 11 lakhs to Calcutta, 9 lakhs to Bombay, and 10 lakhs to Madras, 1s. 4d. being the rate obtained, at which tenders were accepted to the full. It was announced that 70 lakhs will be allotted next week. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight was unaltered at 1s 3 13-16d.

Consols were 1-4 per cent higher, at 110 3-4. Indian Sterling Loan remained at 115, 3 1-2 per cent Rupee Securities at £67 5-16, French Rantes at 102 1-4, and Paris Exchange on London at 25·23 fcs. Bar silver was 1-16d cheaper, at 27 7-16d per oz.; and 1-8 cent in New York, at 59 1-2 cents per oz, with demand Exchange on London unchanged at 4·85 1-4 dollars.

For No. 1 Club Wheat the quotation yesterday was 29 3-4s per 492lbs., April-May shipment, to Hull sellers via the Canal; for White Delhi, 29s per 492lbs., same shipment, to the same port, sellers via the Canal. For Yellow Cawnpore Rapeseed 35 1-4s per 416lbs, was quoted, April-May shipment, to Antwerp, sellers via the Canal, market quiet

In Liverpool the prices of Cotton, both spot and for arrival, were unchanged all round. The day's Sales were 10,000 bales, including 100 bales Surats; and the Imports, 6,000 bales. The market closed easier, Surats and Arrivals quiet. The Manchester Market was quiet but steady.

Ready Mid. Uplands Cotton advanced 1-8 cent in New York, to 6 5-16 cents per lb.; June Futures 5 points to 5·99 cents, and September 4 points, to 6 cents per lb. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 15,000 bales; and this season's arrivals to date compare as follows with those in 1898 and 1897:—

	1899.	1898.	1897.
Wednesday's Receipts	15,000	15,000	8,000
Four days' do.	75,000	72,000	42,000
Since 1st September...	7,425,000	7,789,000	6,175,000

Locally, the cotton market has been firm in tone to-day, with a fair demand alike from shippers and the mills. The former bought 400 bales Dhamangaum at Rs 129 1-2 per candy, 200 Dhulia at Rs. 128 1-2, 200 Karanja at Rs, 138, 200 Batwa at Rs. 145 1-2, 150 Palitana at Rs. 129; and the latter, 500 Wadhwan at Rs. 142, 200 Morbi at Rs. 122, 200 Viramgaum at Rs. 118, 250 Pachora at Rs, 128, 100 Khangaum at Rs. 133 1-2, 200 Mulkapore at Rs. 134 1-2; 300 Jaland at Rs. 137, 100 Samginned at Rs. 137 1-2, 200 Dhamangaum at Rs. 129.

WHEAT AND SEEDS are steady, a fair business is passing at current prices.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	9,201 bales.
Wheat	33,212 cwts.
Linseed	9,004 "
Rapeseed	5,026 "
Gingellyseed	5,054 "
Groundnuts	943 "
Castorseed	3,161 "
Rice	9,724 "

FREIGHTS.—Lines are reported done at 15s. and 16s. 6d. for Dunkirk, April shipment; 14s. 6d. for Antwerp; 16s. 6d. for Hamburg, and 15s. for May shipment.

EXCHANGE opened quiet in tone with 1s. 3 31-32d. quoted for Bank Telegraphic, 1s. 4d. for Demand, and 1s. 4 5-32d. for three months' sight Credits. Business was on a very small scale, no transactions of importance being reported; and the market closed steady as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 4 1. per Rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 31-32d to 1s. 4d
Credits 3 months' sight	1s 4 5-32d.
Francs	17 9-16

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—Rates have shown a tendency to be firm at 101 for cash, for 3 1-2 per cents, 101 5-16 for the settlement, and 94 1-2 for Threes.

SHARES are quiet. New Indian Press are Rs. 5 higher; Khatao Mukunjee Mill Rs. 10, China Rs. 5, and Swadeshi Rs. 5. Tapti Valley Railway have advanced Rs. 2 1-2, and Ahmedabad Prantej Rs. 10.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed easier. Sura's quiet.

Good Bhownuggur 2 25-32.

The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.

2¾ per cent. Consols 110 3-4
2½ per cent. Rentes 102¼
2½ per cent. Sterling Loan 115
3½ per cent. Rupee Papers 67 5-16
Bar Silver 27 7-16

The sum of about £750,000 has been withdrawn from the Bank of England.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

NAPLES, MARCH, 22.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Orissa left here yesterday evening.

SINGAPORE, MARCH 23.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Peshawur (extra) left here this morning for Bombay.

HONGKONG, MARCH 23.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Bombay (extra) left here this morning for London direct.

The N. Y. K. steamer Hiroshima Maru arrived at Kobe on the 22nd instant.

The Messageries Maritimes Company's s. s. Tonkin which left Bombay on Tuesday, the 14th instant at 1 p.m. arrived at Suez on Wednesday, the 22nd inst. at 1 p.m.

HIGH COURT.—MARCH 24.

Before the Honourable Mr. Justice CANDY and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice STARLING.

Appeals for hearing and final disposal.

929-123-97—Crawford B and Co—Fazulbhai Visram and another vs Visram Raisi and another—Payne G and S Part heard.

987-354-96—Thakurda D C and H—Khimjee Jairam Narronjee and another vs Dadabhoy Pestonjee Shroff—Ardesir H and D.

1035-230-98—Magonlal and Co—Dewkobhai vs Vejbai—Smethram B and Noble.

Reference from the Bombay Court of Small Causes.

1-99—Payne G and S—Francis Hagan vs William Latham Harvey—Crawford B and Co.

Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. TYABJEE.

For Trial of an Issue.

593-98—Little and Co—William Birkmyre and others vs Tokersey Purshotum and others—Payne G and S and Nanu and H.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Long Causes.

488-97—Little and Co—Goverdhandas Hurjiwan vs Hurjiwan Purshotum—Mathubhai and J.

129-98—Crawford and Co—Jamnabai vs Hurjiwan Purshotum—Mathubhai and J.

366-98—Captain and V J A L Antao vs Ardesir Byramjee Limboowalla and others—Payne G and S, Daphtary and F, and Captain and V.

719-93—Little and Co—Esmailjee Ebhramjee Nagree vs Kalabhai Visram and another—Matubhai and J.

For further directions and costs on Commissioner's Report.

653-97—Tyabjee D and Co—The Hon'ble Basil Lang and another vs Mooljee Karsonjee—Scrabjee and J

To vary Commissioner's Report.

641-22—Tyabjee D and Co—Nathu Tulsidas and another vs Poonja Waljee and others—Little and Co and Payne G and S.

Before the Honourable Mr Justice RUSSELL.

For an Exparte Decree.

32-39—Hiralal M and M—Moghibai vs Dawraj Tookersey and others—Ardeshir H and D and Hiralal M and M.

Suits for hearing and final disposal

Long Causes.

331-98—Craigie L and O—Bai Mancckvahoo vs Karsondas Pragjee—Matubai and J. Part heard.

658-98—Payne G and S—Kesharichad Nathu vs Merwanjee Nowrojee—Pestonjee R and K.

165-98—Crawford B and Co—Kara Laljee vs Dhunjee Ruttonsey—Payne G and S.

626-97—M H Khan—Kalloosing Soosing and others vs Dhunji Ruttonsey—Payne G and S.

39-98—Framjee and Dinshaw—Mariambai widow vs Kusham Ahmed—Scrabjee and J.

515-98—B V N Kirtiker—Karsondas Narsi vs Memon Ismail Hajee Noor Mohomed—Magonlal and Co.

Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice FULTON and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice RUSSELL.

For Judgment.

930-241-25—Craigie L and O—Thomas A Bulkley and another vs F C H Snow and others—Crawford B and Co.

Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice FULTON.

For Judgment.

60-98—Ardeshir H and D—Kadurbhoy Moollar Hasson Aly Tyabjee Allithoy and another—Crawford B and Co.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

DEATH.

CAMDIN—March 23, at Mauzbanabad, Andheri, Arneshir Sorabji Dastoor Candinna. Funeral at his residence in the Bazaar Gate Street, opposite the Fountain, this (Friday) morning, at 8 o'clock.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

FORBES—March 13, at Quetta, the wife of Captain J F Forbes, 1st Bn. Wiltshire Regiment, of a daughter.

MULLALY—March 11, at Rawalpindi, the wife of Captain Alexander Mullaly, Indian Staff Corps, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GILLHAM—BURNS—March 15, at St Mathias', Vepery, by the Rev A Sharpe, Algernon Reginald Morgan Gillham, of the Champion Reef Gold Mining Co. of India, Ltd, to Lilian Mary, daughter of G H Burns, Esq, Madras Railway Co, and grand-daughter of Captain and Riding Master S Burns, R A.

GRIFFIN—O'DONNELL—March 14, at the Roman Catholic Church, Gorakhpore, Henry Daly Griffin, Indian Civil Service, to Emma Sarah Grey O'Donnell, eldest daughter of the late R E O'Donnell, of Limerick, Ireland.

DEATH.

STONE—March 18, at the Albert Victor Hospital, Lahore William Michael Stone, late Assistant Master, St George's College, Mussoorie, and St. Peters' College, Agra, aged 23 years and 4 months.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1899.

THE annual meeting of the Bombay Millowners' Association showed that the cotton industry of Western India is in no danger of succumbing to the adverse circumstances that have in recent years threatened its prosperity. The report has to record the fact that the plague is still with us, that the mills have been working at a very serious disadvantage, that the expectation that the excise duty on piece-goods would be spontaneously removed by Government under the influence of a large surplus has not been realised, and the subject still claims the most vigilant attention. But it has also to chronicle the steady, if somewhat retarded, growth of the industry. Last year there were 161 mills at work in all parts of the country, seven more than in the previous year, while twenty-four new factories were in course of erection and four others projected, the greater portion of them in the city of Bombay and the Presidency. Bombay for her part had seventy-two mills at work against sixty-nine in the second year of plague. The number of spindles had increased by nearly forty thousand, and there was a slight increase in the number of looms, notwithstanding the depressing effect of the excise duty, which has acted, as was anticipated, as a stimulus to the hand-loom industry, which is exempt from the excise that weights the power looms. To understand the true significance of this continuous development under conditions so little calculated to inspire confidence and encourage capitalists to erect more cotton mills, we need only turn to the *Indian Textile Journal* just issued, and note that the Manchester correspondent of that excellent periodical, apropos of the threatened strike of the operatives in the cotton trade, states that there has been a diminution of four millions in the number of spindles in England, and that the margin of thirty years ago as compared to that of 1897 is 2½d. per pound against the employer. To one factory with 160,000 spindles the loss of a farthing per pound means £4,000 a year. The shrinkage is therefore very serious, curtailing the profits of all the mills. Many traders would willingly sell out, but mill property is not easily disposed of as matters are. The number of operatives engaged in the spinning departments is 13,000 less than it was twenty years ago. It would be a mistake to conclude from all this that the Lancashire cotton manufacture is within a measurable distance of collapse. There are forty millions pindles still at work after a decline of four millions—a larger number than that of all the spindles in Bombay. What has disappeared for ever is the great monopoly of Manchester. The rest of the world has sixty-four million spindles competing with the forty million still at work in England. The cotton industry is commonly said to be her most important next to agriculture. Both are now subjected to the fierce rivalry of the rest of the world, and profits are no longer what they were. But neither the one or the other will accept defeat. Like Wellington at Waterloo, they will refuse to acknowledge that they are beaten.

Sir George Cotton, chairman of the Association, supplemented the able report of the Secretary, Mr. Noel Paton, with an address on the present state and future prospects of the Bombay cotton industry. In the first place the steady decline in the value of the raw material grown in India through the increase of the American output, and the anticipated larger crop this year, has resulted in a continued fall in the price of yarn and heavy losses to the holders of stocks in this country and in China. Japanese competition has become more serious, the number of her spindles having increased by fifty per cent. in the last two years. The Island Empire has unloaded her yarns at less than cost price in the Chinese markets. It is a consolation to know that the Shanghai mills, erected on the quite erroneous calculation that the closing of the Indian Mints would give them a decided superiority over Bombay, found themselves in such straits that they had to sell their yarn in their own markets for less than it cost them to make it. Meanwhile even greater difficulties had to be faced in Bombay, where the plague had to be reckoned with as well as falling markets. The mills were for two or three months in each season within a measurable distance of having to stop working through the exodus of the workers under the influence of panic. Still these crises bring their own cure. The down-rush of prices and the diminished output reduced stocks, and prices improved. It was also discovered that the American cotton crop was not as phenominally large as the estimate. Sir George Cotton looks to the opening of the northern ports of China to still further improve the position. The Celestial Empire has an immense capacity for absorbing foreign produce in normal times, and the new treaty ports may be expected to take the yarns, not only of Japan but of India. He foresees, however, that we must reckon with a large development of cotton factories in China; he only hopes that for a time at least there will be no great increase in the number of mills in the Far East. When that inevitable increase takes place, where shall we find markets for the ever increasing output of our mills? The chairman of the Mill owners' Association did not enter on the field of prophecy. But it is reasonable to suppose that with a population of 300,000,000 at our own doors—a population increasing some twenty millions every decade—the produce of our mills will never want customers. Sir George Cotton is doubtless right in the conclusion that the time for handsome profits is over, and that in future the millowner, like the rest of the world, will have to be satisfied with moderate returns on his invested capital. The late Lord Rothschild held that in another forty years the European capitalists could not expect more than one per cent. on his investments. But, as Mr. Gladstone said on a memorable occasion in respect to quite another matter, many things may happen before then. The great conflagration that we are all expecting, but never comes, may break out in a night, and consume so much of the world's earnings that money may be as difficult to obtain as it was in India a short year ago, when fifteen and even eighteen per cent. was offered, and not taken.

Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. Like Sir Robert Giffen, but on more special grounds, Sir George Cotton holds that the dread of Japanese competition is exaggerated. Besides the general consideration that a nation of forty milions cannot possibly manufacture cotton or anything else in sufficient quantities to supply the needs of all their neighbours, as well as their own, the Japanese mill-hands have a good deal of leeway to make up before they get on a level with the mill-hands of Bombay, who have acquired a relative degree of proficiency that places them as far above novices as they are below the skilled labour of Lancashire, which still gives Manchester the practical monopoly of the finer counts. It has yet to be shown that the Chinaman will take to factory work, except under the stimulus of high wages. Sir George points out that the prediction that the closing of our mints would give China and Japan a decisive advantage over the Bombay mills has not been realised. The wages of labour are paid not in silver, but in copper cash—the only coin made in China. The dollar purchased 1,200 cash when the mints were closed; it now only purchases 800. The price of yarn rises and falls exactly in proportion to the sterling value of the silver dollar, precisely as the value of the rupee used to fluctuate with the sterling value of that coin and of silver in the days of the open mint. In any case machinery, whether for China or Bombay, has to be paid for in sterling and not in silver. Cotton must be paid for in the silver equivalent of sterling; for Japan and China have to import their raw material. They cannot hope to buy as advantageously in as the Bombay mill agents, who can select the most suitable staple on the spot and watch the turn of the market. Sir George Cotton has, therefore, some solid ground for the belief that the Bombay mills can compete with their rivals, actual and future, in the Far Further East. He touched In many other points of great interest in connection with the outlook for our chief industry. With regard to the currency question he gave utterance to what under present circumstances can only be regarded as a pious opinion namely, that the Government, disregarding the fact that the Currency Commission has practically decided on changes which the Government of India has avowedly made provision to finance, the *status quo* should be maintained and no change effected as long as things continue to be as satisfactory as a sixteenpenny rupee can make them. Having gone so far, the Government cannot take their hands from the plough, till it has got to the end of the nearly completed furrow. The present equilibrium of exchange is in no small part due to the general conviction that measures are about to be taken to give the country a stable currency.

The past week's mortality in the town and island of Bombay reached the total of 2,408, equivalent to an annual death-rate of 149·21 per thousand. Last week's total was 2,312 and the figures for the corresponding week of last year 2,268. We should like to believe that we have now reached the top of the hill and a rapid decline will follow the beginning of the hot weather. Of the total deaths 1,128 are set down to plague as compared with 1,074 last week. In normal years the mortality would be 534, so that we may take it approximately that eighteen hundred and not twelve hundred died of plague. The district officers discovered 1,319 attacks during the week, in 369 of which the patients were removed to hospital; 1,071 of the recorded cases died. In their inspections the officers visited 10,449 houses, of which they disinfected 1,700 and vacated 387. During the week ending last Saturday it is calculated that 25,000 persons left the city in excess of arrivals and that the population of the city has fallen below eight lakhs. If so the death-rate would be somewhat higher, for the Municipal return takes the census population of 1891, namely, 821,764, upon which to calculate its rate. Byculla is still the section most heavily affected, the deaths from plague between March 14 and 21 numbering 116. Girgaum comes next with 64. Fifties and forties are numerous. Walkeshwar and Upper Colaba are the only districts which return single figures, whilst South Fort alone was free. Measles is still epidemic, a hundred and forty deaths occurring among children. The mofussil returns show how ready the people of infected areas are to profit by the experiences of their neighbours. At Amod town, in the Broach district, for example, as soon as a case was discovered the villagers at once commenced to unroof their houses and prepared for life in the open air. At Raleras, in Sholapur, infection is believed to have been taken by some of the villagers, who visited the infected village of Wadali at the weekly bazaar. The place was immediately evacuated, and the run of the plague cut short at once. In the Belgaum district Kutchi remained free. But in the Gokak taluka the state of things was not so satisfactory, two villages becoming newly infected. Dharwar town continued free of plague during the week, 20,824 persons having been inoculated, 14,594 of them for the second time. In Dharwar 43,912 inoculations are reported to date, 38,337 being seconds. Excellent results have accrued there as well as in Gadag, which is now running Hubli and Dharwar very close in the demand for inoculation. Ratnagiri reported seven imported cases, six of them being alleged to have come from Bombay. But the interval between the date of arrival and date of illness (17th to 28th February and 22nd February to 3rd March) makes the conclusion as to the source of the infection doubtful. From enquiries made, the Collector concludes that the first decided case of plague occurred in the person of a goldsmith's wife, who died on the 25th February near the bazaar, and though the cause of infection is not traceable, yet there can be little doubt that communication between Ratnagiri and Bombay is chiefly responsible for the outbreak. About 6,000 people are reported to have already left the town, and the whole of the infected area has been evacuated. In Mundgod Mahal, Kanara, as in Amod the villagers themselves took prompt action; the Collector on visiting the place when it was reported infected found that the village had been already evacuated, and the caution of the villagers seemed to have arrested the advance of the plague in that direction. Sind reports upwards of sixteen thousand persons in the voluntary camps.

THE administration report of the Karachi Port Trust for the year ending March 31st, 1898, is just to hand, and shows that the period under review has been satisfactory. The revenue amounted to Rs. 9,30,922, with the expenditure Rs. 7,49,776, leaving a surplus of Rs. 1,81,126. In the estimates at the beginning of the year, Rs. 71,869, were provided from the reserve fund to supplement revenue, but it was not found necessary to utilise more than Rs. 27,000 of this sum. The decrease in expenditure is attributable to reductions where possible and savings under various heads of account. Most of the revenue surplus has been allotted to expenditure on works, liquidation of capital debt, and repayment of the deficit in 1897. The number and tonnage of vessels entering the port show a decrease compared with the figures of the previous year, but this is due to slackness of trade during the first nine months of the year owing to plague. The receipts from storage and demurrage fees fell off, and is due to the same cause. The imports on the whole have increased, the quantity of mineral oil is double that of the preceding year, and the amount of sugar sent to Karachi is the largest on record. Cotton twist and piece-goods show an upward tendency, but the coal has declined, the falling off being probably due to the strike. The decrease in metals and timber is ascribed to slackness of trade, while the lessened import of railway material can be satisfactorily accounted for by the completion of the Sind-Punjab Railway and the fact that no new lines are under construction. The exports are not so encouraging. The grain trade is markedly flourishing, and pressed bales of wool and cotton and bones have also increased. Raw wool and cotton in bales, unpressed, shows a serious falling off. Owing to the slackness of trade during the first months of the year the revenue derived from the export sheds amounted to only Rs. 8,979 against Rs. 13,628 during the same period last year. None of the schemes the 13 Lakhs Loan Works were completed, but are progressing. The quantity of material dredged during the year is the lowest during the past eight years, owing to the greater depth and the harder nature of the material dredged, as also to the dredgers being only partially worked owing to lack of funds. The state of the harbour is, however, steadily improving and the minimum depth of the entrance is 24·75 feet below datum on the navigating line.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD SANDHURST, held a Durbar at the Government House, yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of delivering "sanads" to the native gentlemen of Bombay, who have been honoured with the titles of Khan Bahadur, Rao Bahadur, Khan Saheb, and Rao Saheb in recognition of their services to Government in connection with plague. The ceremony was an imposing one and out of 31 recipients 29 were present to receive the "sanads." At the conclusion of the ceremony His Excellency thanked the gentlemen for their assistance to Government and expressed a hope that they would continue to be useful to them in fututur.

LIEUT.-COL. FERRIS has been appointed Political Agent at Mahi Kantha.

MR. E. CLEMENTS has been appointed a First-class Magistrate in the Karachi district.

MR. F. C. O. BEAMAN, I.C.S., District Judge, Belgaum, has been allowed three months' privilege leave.

MR. G. C. WHITWORTH, I.C.S., Judicial Commissioner in Sind, has been granted seven months' furlough.

LIEUT-COL. C. MONKS, I. C. S., has been appointed Port Surgeon, Aden.

CAPTAIN W. E. JENNINGS, I. M. S., has been appointed Civil Surgeon at Shikapur.

CAPTAIN A. HOOTON, I. M. S., has been appointed to act as Deputy Sanitary Commissioner for the Central Registration District.

CAPTAIN J. C. ROBERTSON I. M. S., has been appointed on the Plague duty at Karachi.

MR. G. W. HATCH, I.C.S., has been appointed Collector and District Magistrate, Khandesh, and President of the Local Board for that district during the absence of Mr. A. R. Bonus.

CAPTAIN W. S. GOODRIDGE, R. N., Mr. W. L. Harvey, Mr. W. P. Morrison, and Mr. J. Willcocks have been appointed Members of the Board of Trustees of the Port of Bombay.

MR. R. N. COGHLAN, (vice-chairman), and Major A. W. L. Bayly, D. S. O., Assistant Adjutant General, Sind District, have been appointed Members of the Board of Trustees of the Port of Karachi.

SURGEON-GENERAL W. TAYLOR, Principal Medical Officer in India, arrived in Calcutta on Saturday. He starts shortly on a tour of inspection in the Punjab.

CAPTAIN MCMAHON, Political Agent, Malakhand, has proceeded on a flying visit to Dir and Cnitral. He will return in a few days hence. Everything is quiet in Dir, Swat, and Bajour.

As a result of Sir James Westland's favourable budget statement, Government 3 1-2 per cents rose with a bound on Monday, and eventually closed at Rs. 101-10, nine annas above the closing price on Saturday.

IT is reported that the Gumatti outlaws have left the neighbourhood of Gumatti, and gone up the Kurram. As it is thought that they may intend mischief in the direction of Tochi or Bannu, troops have been sent to strengthen the Khulboi and Gumatti police outposts.

PENDING the legislation necessary for the establishment of the promised Chief Court in Burma, it is likely that an Additional Judicial Commissioner will be appointed for Lower Burma to cope with the great increase of work that has recently set in upon that Court.

WITH the sanction of Her Majesty's Government the appointment of Mr. A. H. R. Armstrong as Consular Agent for the United States at Karachi is recognised.

THE Municipal Corporation, at their meeting, yesterday, appointed a committee, consisting of the Hon. Dr. Bhalchundra, Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtula, Professor Muller, Messrs. K. N. Kabrajee, Abdul Husein, Adamjee Peerbhoy, Badrudin Kur, Manmohandas Ramjee, Vithaldas Damoder Thackersey, Dhakjee, Kasinathjee, and Dr. Silva, to prepare in consultation with the Municipal Commissioner, the Executive Engineer, and the Health Officer, and submit to the Corporation to be forwarded to the City Improvement Trust, a scheme or schemes for the improvement of congested areas in the Fort Ward.—The Corporation also appointed a (committee to consider, in consultation with the Municipal Commissioner, and report what retrenchments can be effected in Municipal expenditure without impairing efficiency.

THE total number of deaths registered in Bombay during the week ending 21st March was 2,408, giving a death-rate of 149·21 per annum per thousand as against 142·25, the corresponding period of last year, and 63·34 the average over the past five years. Of the total number 162 died from fevers; 1,128, plague; 10, small-pox; 140, measles; 7, cholera; 152, phthisis; 71, diseases of the nervous system; 245, affections of the respiratory organs; 69, diarrhœa; 47, dysentery; 50, still-born; 60, old age and debility; and 15, accidents and violence. The classified list of deaths shows:—Jain, 65; Brahmin, 90; Lingaet, 4; Bhattia, 16; Hindu of other caste, 1,455; Hindu outcaste, 219; Musalman, 418; Parsee, 43; Jew, 9; Native Christian, 72; Eurasian, 5; European, 5; Negro African, 4; Buddhist, 1; other and unknown races, 2. The total number of births was 174 as against 163 the corresponding period of last year, and 179 the average over the past five years.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL CURZON-WYLLIE, Resident, Jodhpore, will act as Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, when Colonel Barr proceeds home on leave next month.

LORD HAMPDEN, the retiring Governor of New South Wales, with Lady Hampden and the Misses Hampden and suite, are passengers by the homeward bound steamer, Oruba, which arrived in Colombo on Wednesday.

CORPORAL BROWN and Private Avenall, 4th Hussars, have just been despatched to Paris for Pasteur treatment. A Sergeant and nine more men of the same regiment were bitten by a rabid dog at Bangalore on Wednesday. It is expected these will also be sent to Paris on Medical Boards reporting on their state.

A COLOMBO telegram of yesterday's date says The Australian papers to hand by the mail just in, report the serious illness of General Booth, who is suffering from dysentery contracted in the tropics during the voyage. The arrangements made for a tour in Adelaide have consequently been cancelled.

HONORARY degrees were conferred at Cambridge yesterday in the Senate House on Lord Tennyson, Governor-designate of South Australia, and the Rev. Hugh James Foss, Bishop of Osaka. The Public Orator, Dr. Sandys, of John's College, in his Latin speeches made mention that both of the recipients of the degrees were educated at Marlborough.

FROM the 11th to the 17th instant, no Europeans, 6 East Indians, 17 Native Christians, 256 Hindus and 37 Mahomedans died within the Municipal limits of Madras, making a total of 316; the death-rate being 36·3, and the mean for the ten previous years being 34·4. The deaths are thus classified:—Plague *nil*, cholera *nil*, small-pox 1, measles 8, fevers 32, dysentery 57, diarrhœa 12, and other causes 206.

AN Afghan prisoner escaped from police custody on the 14th instant in the Banu District whilst being escorted from Chuhar Khel to Pezu by a mounted constable. On the journey the constable gave his horse to the prisoner to hold. At once perceiving his opportunity the prisoner burst the handcuffs, mounted the constable's horse and scaped to the nearest hills, where he released the horse, which was subsequently recovered by a party sent in pursuit.

GEORGE HERBERT Russell alias Campbell, who enlisted in the 4th Dragoon Guards last December and deserted on the 11th instant, has been arrested by the town police at Karachi and placed before the City Magistrate, who directed that the accused be made over to the Military authorities here to be dealt with according to law. The accused admitted to the police that he also deserted from the 18th Company Garrison Artillery, at Colaba, Bombay, and also from the Rifle Brigade at Gosport, in England, in the early part of 1896.

ON Tuesday evening a daring theft of Rs. 1,000 was committed at the Lahore Railway Station, from a Katri named Bodh Raj, an intending passenger by the Kurrachee mail train. The man took his seat in the train, placing the money upon a bench. He then got out for a drink of water, leaving the money in charge of a companion. On coming back he found the money missing. His companion had not left the compartment, but had stooped down to put some things under the seat. In the meanwhile the money was taken. It is believed the police have a clue.

THE Committee of the Calcutta Wine, Spirit, and Beer Association have addressed the Bengal Government on the subject of the local manufacture of concoctions of potato spirit which are sold as Scotch whisky and French brandy. Attention is also directed to the counterfeiting imitation all over the province of well-known brands of liquor. The Committee suggest that in future Government should undertake the prosecution of the wrong-doers who infringe the excise regulations, and are of opinion that the licenses of convicted individuals should be dealt with.

A "Gazette of India Extraordinary" was issued at Calcutta on Tuesday containing the notification imposing countervailing duties upon bountifed sugar. The amount of the duty varies according to the bounty given in different countries. It is as high as Rs. 9-2 per cwt. on sugar from the Argentine Republic, but the figures for the two countries which send most sugar to India are very low. Thus the duty on imports from Austria-Hungary varies from As. 14 to Re. 1-5 and those from Germany from As. 15-3 to Re. 1-6. The new Act is ordered to come into force at once.

AT Amritsar on Saturday, Colin White, lately a Guard on the N.-W. Railway, was sentenced by the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur to twelve months, rigorous imprisonment for having in September last while in charge of a train stolen a bag containing four currency notes of Rs, 100 each and bonds &c. to the value of Rs. 30,000, the property of Mr. Milne, Manager of the Dhariwal Spinning and Weaving Mills. Two of the notes have been recovered, but from the evidence adduced there is every reason to believe that the bonds have been destroyed. White was formerly in the Royal Artillery and bore a good character.

THE Ootacamund Municipality has been cast in Rs. 500 damages and costs in the case brought against it by Lady Souter for illegally cutting down certain trees on her property, particulars of which have appeared in our columns. The Sub-Judge, in the course of his judgment, animadverted on the rash action of the Municipal servants and remarked:—"On the whole of the evidence, my finding is that the trees in dispute were not considered by the Chairman to be dangerous, and that the Council acted illegally and beyond its powers in cutting down the trees, and that its act amounted to a trespass."

IT is with extreme regret that we announce the death, at Lahore, of Mr. J. A. Sinclair, Barrister-at-Law, Government Advocate of the Punjab. The sad event took place on Monday morning. Mr. Sinclair was an old resident of Lahore, and had made his mark in his profession. Apart from his eminent position at the Bar, he was well-known for his kind heart, wide sympathies and extensive charities. He was a well-known personality throughout the Punjab, and possessed many friends. For several years he occupied the position of chairman of the directors of the Murree Brewery Company, and under his control, the business of the Company has been carried on with extraordinary success. He leaves a widow and large family to mourn his loss, and will be much missed by all who knew him.

HIS Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar's shooting party so far has been most successful, and the bag almost a record. Up to the 13th of this month the bag included three tigers, one black leopard, two bull bison, six rhinos, fifteen buffaloes and about five barasingha stags. The best day was the 9th March, when the bag numbered five rhinos, one bull bison, seven buffaloes and two barasingha stags or fifteen head of big game. Besides His Highness and his young son, the party includes His Royal Highness the Count of Turin, the Earl of Lonsdale, Mr. Vanderbilt, Sir Henry Tichborne, Prince Teano, Mr. Hall, Count Carpeuetto, Lord Elphinstone and Sir Benjamin Simpson. The camp is at Bhurapara in Assam.

MR. JOHN GEORGE LEIGH, an exceptionally well-informed authority on the subject, is engaged upon a book on the Samoan islands and people. The story of their political relations with England, Germany, and America will be fully and minutely set forth, as also the great importance of the group, in view of America's expansion in particular, and generally of commercial expansion in the Pacific. Not the least interesting of Mr. Leigh's themes is Australasia's share in the Samoan question. It is as certain as to-morrow's sunrise that the feeling of the Australians, strong as it has been in their state of colonial isolation, will become more pronounced as soon as the birth of the Australasian "Commonwealth"—a splendid name—is announced to the world.

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

UNFAVOURABLE REPORT ON THE SOUTHERN SOUDAN.

NO PRACTICAL ADVANTAGE.

LONDON, MARCH 23.

Mr. Garstin, of the Egyptian Works Department, after paying a visit of inspection along the Upper Nile, reports that to a great extent the country to the southward of Omdurman is extremely unhealthy and presents no practical advantage to any civilized Power.

The *Times* commends these facts to the advocates of a Cape to Cairo Railway.

THE SIRDAR ON HIS DEFENCE.

THE MAHDI'S REMAINS.

MARCH 22.

The Sirdar's despatch, in which he accepts entire responsibility for the dispersal of the Mahdi's remains, has been laid on the table of the House of Commons.

Lord Cromer's covering despatch entirely supports General Kitchener's action.

SLAVERY IN ZANZIBAR.

BRITISH VIEWS.

In the course of a debate in the House of Commons on Slavery in Zanzibar Mr. Brodrick said that the Government was bound to maintain its pledge to respect the law of Islam, and it would be foolhardy at present to dislocate the labour market on the mainland by a general manumission, but the Government had directed that no British official should assist in sending slaves back to bondage.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH AGREEMENT.

A semi-official note, in giving details of the Anglo-French Agreement relating to Africa, says it does not affect the questions of the Middle Nile or Egypt proper.

LATER.

Both countries appear satisfied with the terms of the Nile Agreement.

THE INDIAN SUGAR BILL.

HUNGARIAN ASSURANCES.

The Hungarian Government has assured a deputation of Sugar producers that steps will be taken to protect their interests in view of the Indian Countervailing Duties Bill.

THE APPROACHING EASTER RECESS.

Lord Salisbury has gone to the Riviera.

WITHDRAWAL OF MARINES FROM PEKING.

The detachment of British Marines has quitted Peking.

THE MAILS.

SUEZ, MARCH 23.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. Arcadia with the outward mails of the 17th instant, left here at 3 a.m. to-day.

THE COMING BOAT RACE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, MARCH 23.

The London correspondent of the *Pioneer* telegraphs :—Tuesday was a windless day, and the two University crews both rowed from Hammer Smith Bridge to Putney. Cambridge took 8¼ minutes over the distance and Oxford 5 minutes later than 8 minutes 42 seconds, although Gold set a faster stroke. The betting was accordingly risen to 5 to 2 on Cambridge.

BILLIARD MATCH BETWEEN ROBERTS AND DAWSON.

The billiard match between Roberts and Dawson 18,000 up takes place at Argyll Street, this week, and Egyptian Hall next week. This, it is urged, violates the terms of the challenge, and many bets have been cancelled. Roberts, though handicapped by ivory balls on Monday, gained 100 points, but Dawson concluded yesterday 800 ahead.

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

ON SICK LEAVE.

CALCUTTA, MARCH 23.

Sir William Cunningham, Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, has been granted one year's sick leave ; Mr. Barnes, Agent to the Governor-General, Baluchistan, officiating.

A Press Note, issued to-day, adds that if even before the end of the leave now granted to him, the Viceroy should wish for the return of Sir William, the latter will be ready, the Medical Board permitting him to return to duty.

DACOITIES IN CENTRAL INDIA.

NUMEROUS ARRESTS.

GWALIOR, MARCH 23.

Numerous arrests of Pathans, in connection with the many dacoities which have lately taken place in the Central India Agency have been simultaneously effected in Gwalior, Bhopal, Sehore, Chabra, and other small States in Central India, by Mr. H. G. Waterfield, Assistant General Superintendent Thagi and Dacoity Department, who has been specially deputed to investigate this outbreak of dacoity.

Startling and sensational disclosures, exposing the workings of a large gang, are expected.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice B. Tyabjee delivered judgment at the High Court yesterday in a suit brought by Mr. Herbert Bromley, a dental surgeon, against the G. I. P. Railway to recover Rs. 4,600 as damages for injury to his finger caused while attempting to close the door of a railway carriage in which he was travelling. His lordship gave a decree for the plaintiff for Rs. 4,000, with interest and costs.

THE Bengal Government will, it is presumed, institute an examination of a similar sort on their own account when the move to Darjeeling begings. It would in fact be wise to take this step at once, considering how many persons with their servants visit Darjeeling from Calcutta.

THE Eastern Districts of the N. W. Provinces are generally regarded in the dreary light of penal settlements, but there is good pigsticking in places in the Ganges Kadir, and this year a new Tent Club has been started there. The Dumraon Tent Club owes its being mainly to those good sportsmen, the Messers. Fox and Aitcheson, who are now managing the Raj estates. A very sporting pigsticking meet has been arranged for the beginning of April on the lines of the Meerut Kadir Cup meet. The Dumraon Raj is noted for its hospitality, and the Maharani is giving a pigsticking cup to be competed for with the short spear, while the Dumraon Tent Club present a Hog-hunters Cup, to be run over three miles of pigsticking country, and open to members of the Dumraon, Benares and Patna Tent Clubs. Members of these clubs, with representatives of the Dinapore garrison and of the planting community of Chapra and Gorakhpur, are expected to turn up in force ; and if the Dumraon Raj takes charge of the arrangements they are sure of a good time, even if the supply of pig should by any chance run short.

II.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AS A CLUB.

AFTER the introduction presented in the foregoing article, I enter upon a description, in general terms, of the House of Commons, and more particularly of the life led in it by the members of various sorts and conditions.

A question immediately arises to the surface as to whether the House is or is not a club for its Members. In some respects it will indeed be found such but in other respects, not. On the whole it will hardly be so considered. The question, however, well merits some examination.

The phrase that "the House is the best club in London" was at one time a proverb. This must have been in times intervening between the first Reform Act, early in the thirties, and the second one, late in the sixties, when sometimes "a landlord's Parliament" was elected, or when owing to many causes, there was little of popular election in the constituencies, except in a few at the great centres of industry and population. The proverb must have lost some of its truth after the sixties, when members were returned by household suffrage for the boroughs ; and still more, after the last Reform Bill midway in the eighties, when county members came largely to be returned by the rural labourers. By the last named reform, too, the numbers of the Irish Party—already large enough to make a stir—were fully doubled. This particular party then became big enough to make itself felt, not in the political conduct, but also in the social habits of the House. It would be erroneous, then, to call the House the best club in London at any time since 1885, or even a good club. The only possible question would be whether the House can properly be called a club at all.

THE CLUB THEORY EXAMINED.

The points in favour of a club theory would be as follows :—

There are buildings and apartments, halls and terraces for sitting, smoking, reading, lunching, dining, pacing to and fro for recreation. There are also apartments for the reception of guests, ladies as well as gentlemen. Every reasonable facility is afforded to members for showing their constituents or their friends over the whole House and its precincts at certain hours. Now all these advantages are daily made use of by all the members in common, to whatever party or whatever class of society, each one of them may belong. Some of these advantages too are very considerable. The Library is truly a noble place—extensive, well stocked commodious and picturesque—most convenient and suitable in every way—not to be surpassed, probably not to be equalled in any club in London. The same may be said of the Terrace, which will be treated more fully in a future article. Enough here to say, that it is quite admirable, and that no club in London has anything that could in the least be compared with it. The smoking rooms are on a par with those of London clubs. The dining rooms are fairly good, but inferior to those of the best London clubs, and not so good as they ought to be, considering the importance (as will be explained hereafter) of inducing as many members as possible to stay in the House for dinner. The tea room, though interesting, is very inferior in regard to its place. Adjoining it is a newspaper room still more inferior. The halls, the corridors, the lobbies, are capital lounging places. In them there is abundant facility for members to hold interviews with their friends and constituents. If any special consultation be required, there are Conference rooms provided. In these latter respects, the House is superior to any club in London.

The sum total of these advantages and facilities would shew the House to be in many material matters a club of high rank. On the whole, any member of any class may, if so minded, spend his day happily and profitably in the House. He may enjoy the sight of noble and historic things, may get fresh air and exercise on the Terrace, may study the newspapers both of Town and country, may write magazine articles, may even proceed with the composition of a book in the Library, works of reference being all around him on the shelves.

It were superfluous, however, to remark that the qualities of a club are not only material and intellectual but also moral and social. And it is here that discrimination is needed to determine whether the House can properly be styled a club.

ELEMENTS OF A GOOD CLUB.

If we consider the constitution of the good clubs in London, we readily see that in everyone of them there is a certain homogeneity among the members. In some, like the Naval and Military, the Civil Service, the Scientific and the University Clubs, the members belong absolutely to the same class, with the same thoughts and pursuits. In some political clubs, as for example the Carlton, the members not only have the same thoughts but also belong to nearly the same society ; at all events within the club walls there is not much distinction between noble and gentle, between titled and untitled. In the Travellers Club again, the rule that every candidate must have travelled to a specified extent, creates a certain bond between all the members. The Athenæum contains a great variety of elements—intellectual, ecclesiastical, judicial, political, artistic, scientific, social—still there is a certain tone and atmosphere pervading the whole. It were needless to carry the comparison further ; but in all probability an instance of a really mixed club with members of widely different ideas, bringing-up, and social status, could hardly be found in London. Such a case is very possibly unknown in any organisation under private or corporate management.

Yet the House of Commons is a mixed club exactly of this description : if it be a club at all. Most judges indeed, after defining a club in the ordinary acceptation would probably decide that it is not a club in reality.

THE HOUSE APART FROM POLITICS.

No doubt there is much of "*camaraderie*" among all members of the House without any distinction. The fact of having gone through the same electioneering trials, being beset with the same anxieties in their respective constituencies, does constitute a very perceptible bond between them. Political animosity seldom goes very far—it rarely interrupts private friendship, it never interferes with acquaintanceship. Political convenience in reference to measures before the House may cause members of social rank to converse much with Labour Members. Men who had just been raging furiously against each other from the green benches inside the House, may be seen dining together or smoking together on the Terrace, Now and again there will be a member so dreaded or so distrusted, or for some special cause so disliked that no other member will acknowledge or speak to him. But I can call to mind very few such instances. As a rule members widely differing in rank, surroundings, pursuits, ideas, principles, do converse with tolerable freedom, according as opportunity may offer or require, inside the precincts of the House,—even though they may not do so outside. And membership of the House does practically serve as a medium of introduction at least inside the House. Moreover the system of "pairing," an unwritten system practically operative though not recognised by the rules of the House—does lead to much intercommunication between members of opposite parties. I know nothing personally of pairing—being always present I never paired—but I could daily witness its effect. A Tory and a Radical may be at daggers drawn. But the one wants to go to Germany and the other to Scotland. So they bury their differences and pair !

POLITICAL ISOLATIONS.

Notwithstanding all this, there is not and cannot be that understanding between the members of the House as a body which subsists between the members of a good London Club. The Conservatives may become brethren in arms on their green benches in the House, may become fast friends in the Conference Rooms, may form or cement friendships that last throughout life. The Liberals may do just the same. But it will be groups that are thus formed and groups they will remain. No such distinctive groups would be found in a good London Club. Inside such a club if men are conversing they feel they are in the midst of friends. There is no such confidence among members of the House. Members talking in the lobbies, or at tea, or at the dinner table on politics or public affairs, must look round to see who may be within earshot, whether any secret may escape, whether an opponent may be on the watch. Again one may converse with another member, personally unknown on general topics—but one must not mention any political or Parliamentary topic, nor even allude to any Parliamentary personage, for fear of unintentionally giving offence. One must know or divine what party he belongs to even if one does not like to ask his name, before venturing on any save the most ordinary conversation. His name, however, can be easily learnt by turning the conversation on to his constituency ; once that is known, the name of the member can be learnt from any of the reference books. Or, let the familiar case of the dinner table be considered. In a real club anyone may take any place that may be vacant in the dining room, undeterred by those who may be sitting near. But a member would hardly do that in the dining rooms of the Commons. He must when choosing a place, think of those who are sitting and may probably come and sit near him. Out of the several rooms there used to be one where the Irish Nationalist members dined. A Conservative would not care to dine there ; for that would be unsociable for him, and embarrassing to them. In the same way the Radicals dined usually in a certain quarter ; the company of a Tory would not be acceptable there. In another room there was a table by courtesy and practice allotted to Cabinet Ministers ; a table also assigned to the other members of the existing Ministry : these were in a sense high tables or chief places ; and no such arrangement would be possible in a real club. So there were certain quarters where the out and out supporters of the Ministry would dine. One of their opponents could not conveniently dine with them in the brief interval between two parts of the debate, as the conversation would be sure to fall on what had just been happening in the Chamber where they had been playing opposite parts. There was a table where Liberal Unionists used to dine ; a Conservative might certainly sit down with them, but hardly a Gladstonian.

Thus the House though comprising many elements of club life, is not technically or really a club—though it may be so called in a special sense. No ; it is, for social life among the Members, much more than a club. It is an arena, in the truest sense, where a man has to be in the company not only of those who agree with him but of those who differ with him, where he finds his own level, however highly he may have heretofore held his head, where he has to smooth away all angularities of temper and of demeanour, where he finds his notions of other people's opinions and principles modified (generally for the better) by personal discussion, where he gets to know countless things not to be learnt anywhere else, where a common membership gives a stamp of equality to all, within the broad limits of the House, whatever be their status in other spheres outside, where the sense of inequality is less than any whereelse in the Kingdom, and where even the best or highest is not more than *primus inter pares* and seldom even that.

THE HOUSE AS SCHOOL AND THEATRE.

Further the House is a school, a public school in the most national meaning of the word : nowhere else is the idea so well understood that the boys are fathers of men. Here in the House, as there in the school, are boys of a various ages, sorts and conditions ; the big boys, no doubt, by willing acknowledgment only they must not presume to bully the little ones ; the overpoweringly clever boys only they must not lord it intellectually over the duller ones, but help them up rather than frown them down ; the precocious boys only they must not desport themselves too fast lest they meet with an awkward check from their elders ; the pugnacious boys only they must not be too quarrelsome, lest blows should begin to fly and "a row" arise scandalizing the whole institution. The Speaker is the Head master indeed and his authority over each boy is plenary ; but even then the enforcement depends on the suffrage of the whole body. In this school there is this superiority over all other schools, in that the boys as a whole feel that they must by self-discipline train themselves to sustain the moral authority of their headmaster, as the one bond which holds their body corporate together.

Lastly the House is the national theatre ; the Chamber its stage ; the precincts are its green rooms ; the members are the actors, hopeful not for applause from the immediate spectators, but for the approval of the vast body outside ; the debates are the representations with divers dramatic incidents ; the foot lights are the glare of public opinion beating upon them ; the galleries are here the same as in all theatres, only the players must beware of playing too much up to them ; the pit and boxes are symbolised by the students and observers of Parliamentary procedure, management, and results. Happy is he who can walk these classic boards with a gait that shall satisfy fair and generous criticism and shall speak his part with a voice that may penetrate the hearts not only of his constituents, but of the majority among his countrymen.

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LINCOLN AND LAUGHTER.

MR. F. LINCOLN makes his last appearance in India on Monday night at the Tivoli Theatre before travelling through Europe and America. The opportunity of seeing and hearing him should not be missed.

THE NEW MASONIC HALL IN BOMBAY.

ITS ARTISTIC FEATURES AND ACCOMMODATION.

TO-MORROW afternoon, at 6 o'clock, his Excellency Lord Sandhurst, Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India and Pro-District Grand Master under the English Constitution, performs, in the presence of perhaps the largest gathering of Freemasons ever witnessed in this city, the ceremony of consecrating the New Freemasons' Hall, facing the Novelty Theatre on the Esplanade. A descriptive notice of the new building will be found to be of general interest.

The new Masonic temple is situated on the north-east side of the Government mews, facing the Novelty Theatre, and to the south of the New Scotch Church. The superficial area of the land is 1,081 square yards, and it was bought from Government at one rupee per square yard, Rs. 4,000 being paid as the initial fine. The new building occupies almost the whole of the ground on which it is built and fronts north and west upon wide public roads. On the ground floor, the entrance portico occupies the north-west corner and opens into the entrance hall, which is 28 feet high, 37 feet long, and 35 feet wide, having on its south side the main staircase, which communicates first with the mezzanine or intermediate floor, and then goes up to the first floor. This entrance hall opens into the banquetting hall on the east side, which is 60 feet long by 30 feet wide, and 28 feet high, with a gallery 10 feet wide at half its height at the east end across its whole width. On the south side of the banquetting hall is a six-feet passage from the entrance hall, and leading to the kitchen, the butler's room, dispense-khana, servants' rooms, etc., at the extreme east end of the building. On the south side of this passage commencing from the entrance hall, there is a smaller dining room or committee room, with an ante-room on its west side ; and under this ante-room there is a wine cellar, about 8 feet below ground level, with stone steps leading down to the cellar. On the east side of the small dining room, also opening out of the passage, is the dressing room, with lavatories and other conveniences ; and beyond this, at the east end of the passage, is a back staircase ascending first to the mezzanine floor, and thence to the first floors.

On the mezzannine or intermediate floor, 14 feet in height, which extends over the whole building except the entrance hall and banquetting hall, there is a dressing room and bath rooms, etc., for the Grand Master ; at the west end opening on to a landing on the main staircase in the entrance hall. From this landing there is a 6-feet passage on this mezzanine floor, on the north side of which is the upper part of the dining room, and on the south side are two large rooms, which will be used for the purposes of Lodges. This passage at the east end opens into two rooms, which will also be used for Lodge purposes ; and it also communicates at the east end with the back staircase down to the ground floor and up to the first floor.

On the first floor at the west end is the landing to the main staircase, which opens into the grand hall which is 61 feet long, 31 feet wide, and 28 feet high, and has openings on all its four sides. At the east end, the hall opens into a large room 38 feet square with openings all round ; and on the south side of the hall, there is a verandah passage leading from the landing of the main staircase to the large room at the back of the hall, and also to the back staircase. On the south side of this verandah passage is a large flat roof, extending over all the rooms on the south side of the building on the mezzanine floor.

The building is in the Italian style, and has brick walls faced on the west and north sides with Coorla stone, fair dressed, and pointed in black mortar, with Porebunder stone window dressings on both the ground and first floors, and with bold Porebunder stone rusticated quoins at the corners of the building. On the first floor level, there is a Porebunder stone string course, on which a Greek fret is boldly cut. All round the top of the outer walls of the grand hall there is a handsome Porebunder stone entablature with carved enriched double consoles to friezes, with sunk molded panels between the same, and a bold molded cornice over all. The whole entablature is 5 feet in height.

The centre or main part of the building, consisting of the banquetting hall and grand hall over, is 62 feet high from the ground level to the top of the cornice ; and the height of parts of the building at the east and west ends is 48 feet, the central part being 14 feet above the two ends. A Borebunder stone entablature is also carried round the outer walls of the east and west ends, with a plain molded architrave and cornice without ornamental consoles, this entablature being 3 feet in height. The whole of the Porebunder stone has been painted three coats of Porebunder stone colour to preserve it against the monsoon, as Porebunder stone, if left unprotected by any covering, becomes black in a very short time from the effects of the monsoon upon it.

The ground floor is raised 4 feet above the ground level all through, and the plinth is faced with Coorla stone, fair dressed, and pointed in black mortar.

The portico at the north-west corner is entirely of Porebunder stone with pilasters 4 inches projection inside and outside, and arched openings between, with two large openings on the north and south sides for carriages. The portico has an Ionic entablature all round in Porebunder stone with dentil course in cornice, and is crowned by a Porebunder stone balustrade, with sunk panelled piers, and turned molded balusters between the same, while a flat roof covers the whole portico. The flat roof over the portico, the floors to the south rooms on mezzanine floor, and the flat roof over the same on the first floor, are all made with steel beams and steel joists, with concrete fixed between and over the same, and covered partly with tiled flooring and partly with coba flooring. The outer walls of parts of the building on the east and south sides are of brick work faced on outer sides with table-molded bricks, painted three coats of a light stone colour and pointed in white mortar. There are clearstory windows round the entrance hall and the banquetting hall on the ground floor, and round grand hall on the upper floor, while outside there are fitted small ornamental teak weathershades, so that all through the monsoon these windows can be kept open for ventilation. There are also similar small ornamental teak weathershades to all the fan-lights to the windows on the ground floor ; and the mezzanine and first floors on the north and west sides, so that all through the monsoon these fan-lights can also be kept open for ventilation.

The building was commenced in October 1897, the contractor being Mr. Nusserwanji Dinshaw. The contract time for the completion was the 1st May 1899, the estimated cost of the building, including water-supply and drainage, being Rs. 1,10,000. The architect was the well known civil engineer Mr. John Campbell. The corner stone of the Hall was laid by his Excellency Lord Sandhurst on the 5th June 1897, when a grand and solemn ceremony was performed. Since then, through the exertions of members of the Joint Hall Committee, donations towards the building fund to the extent of Rs. 76,952-15-1 had been received as follows :—Rs. 7,000 were contributed by the Hall Committee, Rs. 8,850 by Lodges under the English and Scotch Constitution ; Rs. 2,225 by Chapters ; Rs. 17,535 by individual members of Lodges ; Rs. 75 by individual members of Chapters ; Rs. 19,000 by the Petit family ; Rs. 14,936-7-1 by the N. N. Framjee Trust Fund ; Rs. 6,281-8-0 by Mofussil Lodges and their members ; and Rs. 1,050 by members of the rater nity for the purposes of furniture and fittings.

MILITARY NEWS.

THE relief of Persian Gulf detachments having been sanctioned by the command Head Quarters, the undermentioned detachments will embark on board the British India steamer Dumra, at 10 a.m., to-day, from the Victoria Dock wall. For Bagdad—one native officer and 25 men. For Bushire—one native officer and 55 men. For Muscat—one native officer and 20 men. The detachments will be transhipped to the Persian Gulf Steamer Pachumba at Karachi.

The following appointments have been made :—6th Madras Infantry—Lieutenant Cosby to be Wing Officer on probation. 7th Madras Infantry.—Lieutenant Jenkins to be Wing Officer. 20th Madras Infantry—Captain Morris to be Wing Commander pro tem. Lieutenant W. A. Fetherstonhaugh to be Wing Officer. 17th Madras Infantry—2nd Lieutenant Marching, from the Unattached List, to be officiating Wing Officer. 27th Madras Infantry—2nd Lieutenant Crombie, from the Unattached List, to the officiating Wing Officer. 45th Sikhs.—Lieutenant Barff to be Adjutant. 2nd Bombay Lancers.—2nd-Lieutenant Syer, from the South Wales Borderers, to be officiating Squadron Officer.

LAWN TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

THE WESTERN INDIA CHAMPIONSHIPS.

THESE matches at the Gymkhana have been drawing large crowds daily, and some capital games have been witnessed. The first round of the singles is completed, and Reid, Brooks, Back and Binning have been defeated by their respective opponents. Two matches were played yesterday and were both watched by good galleries. Reid and Greig played against one another for the second time within a week, but the match was disappointing. A keen struggle was anticipated, and it was a closer struggle than the actual score of games show, but it was evident from the first that Greig was in better form than he has shown up to date, and Reid was outmatched : Reid falling to bits at the end of the second set. We were pleased to notice that Greig took the advice we meted out to players generally and played a freer game, but Reid was really off his game and things went against him. At the same time the last named player has much to learn yet in the tactics of the game. It is little use his running up after a weak return ; he gives his opponent a grand opening by doing so, and nothing gives so much confidence as a player passing his opponent who continually advances to the net. Yet one more thing. It is little use coming up to the net unless you make the best of your chances when you are there and 'smash' where the opportunity occurs. Greig was playing a sound game, but he had matters all his own way, so it is hard to say or to attempt to prophesy how he will shape against Fischer as they have not met before this season.

Undoubtedly the best game of the first round was between Brooks and Fischer. Both men were in capital form, both played a sound game, both were fairly careful yet with plenty of dash and hitting—the game went merrily and was a first rate game for spectators. Brooks led off in grand style, and chiefly through the inaccuracy of Fischer's drives placed the first three games to his credit. The fourth game fell to Fischer after deuce had been called, the fifth too, but the sixth went to Brooks, the umpire calling the score (4-2) Brooks leads. Both the next games were stubbornly contested, both at vantage-all, and odds were very much on Brooks, who had the score (5-3) in his favour. Then Fischer made a splendid effort and won the next three games off the reel, not losing a single point in the two last, and placed the first set to his credit (6-5). Brooks won the opening game, and Fischer the next two, both players playing a pretty game ; Brooks making his oblique cuts across the court with great precision, while his opponent was driving hard and true, but not with great accuracy. Brooks then played up and won the next five games running, placing the second set to his credit at (6-2). It is curious that not one of the games in the second set reached deuce. Great interest was displayed over the third set, and a great number of spectators were present. The play was at times brilliant, and as good an exhibition of tennis as we have seen this year in the Gymkhana, both men playing without that dreadful complaint—"nerves." Fischer alternately driving and lobbing with great skill, Brooks came up to the net and volleyed repeatedly with great success. A ding-dong struggle ensued—one game all, two games all, being called, (3-2) and (4-2) Fischer leads. Eventually Fischer ran to (5-3), and was on three separate occasions within one stroke of set and match, but Brooks pulled the game out of the fire each time, and the score was called 5 games all ! This last game was full of interest, and was only won after deuce had been called. It was a great game to watch, and I think the better man won, but there was very little to choose between the two players. Brooks won the greater number of games in the match, 16 to his partner's 14, but lost the match by (6-5), (6-2), (6-5).

Dalton defeated Back after three severe games had been played, but Binning made a poor fight with Ransome. A closer game was anticipated, but Binning was quite out of form at the commencement, and lost the first set to love. The second set was much better, and Ransome only won at (6-5). Binning was finding the length of the court with great certainty in the second set, and it was a disappointment to the spectators that he did not win, as it would have prolonged the match.

The most interesting match in the doubles was played yesterday morning between Greig and Arthur against the Y. M. C. A. representatives, Harrington and George. It was a pleasure to see this club entering a team, and they made a capital fight with the present holders of the cup. This match was to have been played on Tuesday afternoon, but Arthur was becalmed in mid-harbour and arrived too late to play. The Y. M. C. A. men very sportingly waived their right to claim a victory. It was a good match in a way to watch ; the rallies were not long, but many of the strokes were brilliant, and, as is necessarily the case in doubles, very many of the shots were feeble in the extreme. The visitors had all the disadvantage of not knowing the court, but they both volleyed at times with great judgment, and occasional placing shots down the side lines were pretty to watch. Another year let us hope that they will have better luck in the drawing. Ransome and Binning have now to play Arthur and Greig, and this ought to be a capital match.

Jardine and Gray were defeated by Brooks and Reid, but in my opinion with a little more practice Jardine would have been the best player on the court. Both pairs showed a want of practice together, and the chief feature of the game was the ambidextrous play of Jardine.

UMPIRE.

YACHT CLUB RACES.

ROWING MATCHES.

The following Rowing Races (postponed from the 3rd day of the Regatta) will be held on Tuesday next.

Race for 8 oared and over Man-o'-war and bona fide ships' boats. European crews. Length of course 4 miles.

Entrance Rs. 5.

1st Prize	Rs. 40
2nd "	" 15

Race for 8 oared and over Man-o'-war and bona fide ships' boats. Native crews. Length of course 4 miles.

Entrance Rs. 3.

1st Prize	Rs. 30
2nd "	" 10

Race for 4 to 6 oared Man-o'-war and bona fide ships' boats, European crews. Length of course, 1 1-2 miles.

Entrance, Rs. 3.

1st Prize	Rs. 30
2nd "	" 10

Race for Torpedo boats' punts. Two men and no rudders allowed. Only punts service oars to be used. European crews. Length of course 3-4 mile.

Entrance free.

1st Prize	Rs. 5
2nd "	" 2

Race for Torpedo boats' punts. Two men and no rudders allowed. Only punts service oars to be used. Native crews Length of course 3-4 mile.

Entrance free.

1st Prize	Rs. 5
2nd "	" 2

Sculling race for yachts' Dinghies, 12 feet and under belonging to yachts on the R. B. Y. C. List, to be pulled by the yachts' regular sailing crews limited to two in number Length of course 3-4 mile.

Entrance free.

1st Prize	Rs. 10
2nd "	" 5

CAPTAIN MCMAHON, Political Agent at Malakand has proceeded on a flying visit to Dir and Chitral. He will return a few days hence. Everything is quiet in Dir and Swat and Bajour.

MR. T. W. HOLDERNESS, Secretary to the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, leaves Calcutta to-morrow for Simla, visiting Debra *en route* in order to distribute the prizes at the Forest School.

THE betrothal of his Highness the Maharaja of Patiala to a sister of His Highness the Prince Basudeo Singh of Rai Bareli and sister-in-law of the Maharana of Dholepore took place at the close of last month, and the marriage will be celebrated at Rai Bareli about the end of April or early in May.

AT the annual meeting of the Calcutta Turf Club on Tuesday Mr. Justice Macpherson, Messrs. W. Garth, A. A. Apcar and C. L. Johnstone were re-elected Stewards, Mr. Allan Arthur being elected to fill the vacancy caused by the departure of Mr. C. C. Mc Leod for England. Certain proposed new rules regarding the Grand Stand were not carried.

A DURBAR FOR PRESENTING *SANADS*.

HIS EXCELLENCY Lord Sandhurst held a Durbar yesterday afternoon, at the Government House, Malabar Hill, for the purpose of presenting *sanads* to the native gentlemen of this city upon whom titles of Khan Bahadur, Rao Bahadur, Khan Saheb and Rao Saheb were conferred by the Government of India, in January last, in recognition of their services in connection with plague. The Reception Hall was crowded with native gentlemen who had been invited to take part in the ceremony. There were also among those present the Hon'ble Mr. John Nugent, the Hon'ble Sir Charles Ollivant, General F. Vanzris, Sir Andrew Wingate, Mr. W. L. Harvey, the Municipal Commissioner, and Mr. R. M. Kennedy, the Commissioner of Customs. His Excellency having taken his seat, Mr. Mirza Abbas Ali Baig, Oriental Translator, read out the names of the recipients of honour, who were one after another presented to his Excellency by Captain A. D. Young and Captain J. G. Greig, Aides-de-Camp. The *sanads* were delivered to the following 29 gentlemen, who hold the titles prefixed to their names :—Khan Bahadur Mahomedbhai Ibrahim, Khan Bahadur Fakirji Jiwaji, Khan Bahadur Darasha Ratanji Chichgar, Shipping Agent and Licensed Broker in the Bombay Presidency, Khan Bahadur Bomanjee Byramjee Patell, Khan Bahadur Hakim Muhammad Dayem Hakim Abdulla Shah, Khan Bahadur Abdur Razzak bin Kartas, Khan Bahadur Samuel Essaji; Rao Bahadur Keswoji Nathu Saslor, Rao Bahadur Visanji Khimji, Rao Bahadur Karamsi Damji, Rao Bahadur Manekchand Kapurchand, Rao Bahadur Kushaba Chapaji Kale, Rao Bahadur Dhondiba Hanumantrao Barde; Khan Sahib Muhammad Fariduddin, Khan Sahib David Soloman, Khan Sahib Navroji Behramji Santuk, Khan Sahib Shaik Abdul Kadir, Khan Sahib Shaik Adam Yusufbhai, Khan Sahib Pallonji Pestonji Raghina, Khan Sahib Saiyid Nisar Hussein, Khan Sahib Saleh Muhammad Ibrahim ; Rao Sahib Shivalal Motilal, Rao Sahib Cashinath Sambhaji Moorkar, Rao Sahib Nanabhai Moroba, Rao Sahib Purshotam Udhowji, Rao Sahib Narayan Raghunath Gorakshakar, Rao Sahib Muhlooji Narsooji, Rao Sahib V. P. Chavan, and Rao Sahib Govindrao M. Dhukle.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, his Excellency, in addressing the assembly, said ; Gentlemen.—This interesting ceremony having been concluded, I desire to congratulate you each and all upon the distinction that you have received at the hands of the late Viceroy, Lord Elgin, and I am quite sure that if Lord Elgin, now far away, were present this moment at the ceremony that has just taken place, he would equally congratulate you ; for, I can assure you, there is no one who has watched the sufferings of the people of Bombay with greater sympathy, and has more appreciated the efforts that have been put forth by so many of its leading citizens. It is about three years ago since the idea first occurred to us to have a meeting in the Town Hall and to ask the J.P.s to assist Government in the efforts which they were making in regard to plague. Some little doubt was thrown upon the probability of whether we should acquire strength from such a movement, and whether in addition to the promise of assistance, the Justices of the Peace would really put their shoulders to the wheel. I was of opinion that a number of the Justices of the Peace would come forward to assist us, and my prediction was not falsified. In addition to that number of the Justices of the Peace, whose services were enlisted on that occasion, a large number of worthy citizens have come forward, and their energies have been of the greatest possible assistance, You, gentlemen, who have been in receipt of these distinctions, have not only rendered a most valuable service to your suffering city, but you have set a great example to the citizens of other cities which may unhappily be attacked in future. You have not only been among your own people explaining to them the measures and the intentions of Government, but your advice has been of great value to the officers of Government. You have shown yourselves at all times most willing and energetic in the performance of the duty which was self imposed, and which no one can deny was of an arduous nature. You certainly had the assistance of a number of officers, some of them of great experience and well-known amongst you, and whose services every one has appreciated You have also had imported into Bombay a number of Staff Corps officers, who, I understand, have made themselves most popular amongst the people, and of whose services it is difficult to speak too highly. You have been of great service to the Government, and among you, let me say, I include any of the volunteers who are not present to-day. You have explained to the people the danger of the plague and the measures that are being taken for their rescue; you have placed Government in close contact with the population, which it would not be exaggeration to style as probably the most patient in the world. (Hear, hear.) We have had in Bombay an unprecedented period of trial, anxiety and sufferings, and whilst we are grateful to you, and the innumerable officers of Government and volunteers of every description for the efforts that you have made, and whilst we have admired your unflinching courage and energy, we have not been the least behind in admiring the fortitude and patience which have been so signally displayed by the poor population of this city. I give you all the most cordial welcome this afternoon, and it has been a great pleasure to me to distribute to some of you these documents, which are termed *Sanads*. But while the ceremony is of short duration, it is one of great importance, and I think the holding of these *sanads* confers honour upon each one of you who have received them. That is all I have got to say, and in again congratulating you I feel certain that I can rely with confidence that you will not in any way cease from assisting in the efforts which we have been making and which have hitherto been attended with such beneficial results to all amongst whom you have to work. (Applause.)

The assembly then dispersed.

RECEPTION AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

THE reception held by their Excellencies Lord and Lady Sandhurst at the Government House, Malabar Point, last night, was very largely attended. The gentlemen entitled to be present at his Excellency the Governor's Levee had been invited, with the members of their families, to attend the last evening's function, which was a success in every respect. The arrangements were made under the direct supervision of Major Richard Owen, Military Secretary, who was ably assisted by Captains Young, Greig and Wilkinson. The decorations in and about the bungalow were picturesque, and the illuminations very brilliant. The western part of the compound was carpeted with red tapestry, while numerous Chineselamps and multi-coloured lanterns enhanced the beauty of the scene. Before the function of the evening commenced, his Excellency gave a dinner to a select party, at which forty-five covers had been laid. The guests began to arrive shortly after 8-30 p.m., and were received on alighting in the compound by Risaldar-Major Abdul Karrim, the Native Aide-de-Camp and Captain Wilkinson, Aide-de-Camp to Lord Sandhurst. The steps and the verandah leading to the Durbar Room were lined by his Excellency's Body Guards. On the steps the guests were received by Captain Young and Captain Greig, Aides-de-Camp, who escorted them to the door of the Durbar Room, where they were presented to his Excellency Lord Sandhurst, the Europeans by Major Richard Owen, and the Natives by Mr. Mirza Abbas Ali Baig, Oriental Translator to Government. The presentations lasted for fully one hour. The Governor's Band was in attendance and played selections of music. After the presentations were over, the guests assembled in the several rooms to the east of the Durbar Room, and after partaking of refreshments, dispersed at a late hour.

DEPARTURE OF THE TRANSPORT DILWARA.

THE Hired Transport Dilwara, Captain A. W. Mann, will sail (to-day) for Southampton with details, consisting of 45 officers, 13 ladies, and 6 children, 500 non-commissioned officers and men, 74 women and 154 children. The following are the names of the officers :—

Lieut Col and Mrs W A May R A M C	Lieut E T Browne I S Corps
Major G W Maunsell R W Kent	Lieut W H Jugh Army Schools
Major and Mrs E R Graham Cheshire Regt	Vety Lieut H A Sullivan A V Dpt
Major and Mrs B G Lewis and son East Lane Regt	Lieut H St A Wake I S Corps
Major and Mrs DuMoulin R Sussex	Lieut J T Mautz Ord Dept
Major A F Powell R A	Lieut Russell I S Corps
Major A O FitzGerald R A M D	Lieut and Mrs L W Fox and child Comt Dept
Major Harkness Welsh Regt	Lieut Rickman Rifle Brigade
Vety Capt and Mrs F W Forsyke and daughter R A V Dept	Lieut Maffett West Rdg Regt
Capt J M Wade R E	Lieut Shobridge Dorset Regt
Capt F E G Skey R E	Hon Lieut A Watt R E
Capt and Mrs S H Wilkes R A M C	Lieut Brooke R A
Capt C B Martin R A M C	Lieut J H Karrich Welsh Regt
Capt and Mrs C G Carnegy I S Corps	Lieut Morley

BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

An adjourned meeting of the Municipal Corporation was held yesterday, the Hon. Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna presiding.

A DECOCTION A CURE FOR THE PLAGUE.

The Committee considered a memorandum from the Commissioner forwarding a monthly return of sick treated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Arthur Road for the month of January 1899, compared with the corresponding periods of the years 1897 and 1898.

Dr. De Monte proposed that the memorandum be recorded.

Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtula drew the attention of the Municipal Commissioner to the results of plague cases treated at the Khoja Hospital, which was in charge of a qualified medical practitioner, who administered to his patients a decoction of some native drugs. The result of the treatment from the beginning of January to the 11th March was satisfactory, inasmuch as no fewer than 42 per cent. of the patients were cured—a result which no other plague hospital in Bombay had been able to achieve. What he desired was that the Municipal Commissioner should, in the interest of other plague hospitals, institute inquiries into the character and results of the decoction which was said to effect so many cures. If the Commissioner, after inquiry, found that the decoction was efficacious, he might have it introduced into other hospitals.

Mr. Aun Ali thought that favourable results at the Khoja Hospital might, for aught he knew, be attributed to the fact that the Khojas were a better fed, stronger and wiser people than some of the other communities. He did not think there was anything special in the treatment.

Mr. K. M. Shroff attributed these favourable results to the fact of a large portion of the Khoja community having undergone inoculation against plague. (Hear, hear).

Dr. Ismail Janmahomed warned the Corporation against quackery. If there was, he said, an inquiry to be made at all, it must be made not on any superficial, but on a scientific basis. There were many people coming forward nowadays to take the credit of curing plague cases.

Professor Muller said that he knew that many of the patients who were discharged from the various hospitals were put down as cured. The percentages of such cures were often very deceptive.

Mr. D. E. Wacha thought that the matter should be approached in a spirit of scientific inquiry. Indian drugs ought not to be denounced.

Mr. Cuffe was of opinion that the hospital in question being in charge of a qualified practitioner, it was a common-sense proceeding that they should make more inquiries as to the treatment adopted at the hospital.

Sir George Cotton remarked that it was not quite safe to generalise from one or two instances. If an inquiry was at all to be made, it must be conducted by duly qualified and scientific men.

Mr. Kalabhai Lalubhai observed that a Plague Hospital at Surat was managed by a quack, to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned.

The proposition was then put to the vote and carried.

THE IMPROVEMENT TRUST.

Mr. C. N. Wadia, in accordance with notice, moved "That a committee, consisting of the Hon'ble Dr. Bhalchandra, Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtoola, Professor Muller, Mr. K. N. Kabrajee, Messrs Abdul Hussein Adamjee Peerbhoy, Badrudin Kur, Manmohandas Ramji Vithaldas Damodar, Rao Bahadur Dhakji Kashinathji and Dr De Silva, be appointed to prepare, in consultation with the Municipal Commissioner, Executive Engineer, and Health Officer, and submit to the Corporation, to be forwarded to the City Improvement Trust, a representation under Section 23 of the City of Bombay Improvement Act, 1898, suggesting a scheme or schemes for the improvement of congested areas in the Fort Ward."

A lengthy discussion took place on the above motion, in the course of which it was pointed out that the schemes proposed to be taken up by the Improvement Trust were more for the beautifying of the city, than for opening up the slums, which was the chief object for the creation of the Trust.

The motion was eventually carried by a majority.

THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA.

Mr. K. M. Shroff proposed that a complete set of the *Times'* Reprint of the Encyclopædia Britannica be purchased and placed in the Municipal office for use by members of the Corporation and Municipal officers, and that the Standing Committee be asked to recommend the provision of funds for the purpose, not exceeding Rs. 600.

The motion was rejected, some of the members stating that scientific and other articles embodied in the work were now obsolete and not up to date.

RETRENCHMENTS IN MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURE.

On the motion of Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtula, a committee was appointed to consider, in consultation with the Municipal Commissioner, and report to the Corporation what retrenchments could be effected in Municipal expenditure without impairing the efficiency.

After transacting some other business, the Corporation adjourned till this (Friday) afternoon.

NUISANCE IN THE FORT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—A few facts I beg to commend to the immediate attention of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality. There is in Medows Street a refreshment room and directly in front of it is a gateway leading into a courtyard bounded on three sides by blocks of tenanted buildings, and on the fourth side by the office of Messrs. Gostling and Morris, architects and civil engineers. It is to the condition of this locality that I direct the attention of the officer responsible for its cleanliness and sanitation. The tenants of these buildings are at all times exposed to the very offensive effluvia arising from such matter as stands within the enclosure and also immediately before its gateway. Two cases of plague occurred in one of the above buildings as recently as the 2nd of this month—a fact not to be wondered at when the insanitary condition of the locality is given a moment's consideration. In addition to the nauseating presence of all sorts of filth, the eye and the olfectory organ are always assaulted by such materials as a scavenger employs, at the same time forcing upon one very offensive evidence of his duty half-done. Surely the Municipality do not countenance this locality as a repository for such objectionable materials. An official enquiry and report are very pressingly called for in connection with the above condition of things. Those of us who live on Malabar Hill are apt to forget the existence of our less favoured brethren, who have to herd, as it were, with all sorts and conditions of men and in all sorts of habitations. But we might at least bestir ourselves to do the best we can to keep our city clean, and is such not clearly the duty of the Municipality more especially when the plague is in our midst, and has already made its presence felt in this locality? The Municipal Commissioner could scarcely be cognizant of the facts I have stated above, or I am quite sure Mr. Harvey would very soon rectify matters. I therefore confidently look to him for the issue of such orders (after a careful personal inspection) as will entirely obviate the necessity of any further solicitation for help in this direction.—Yours, etc.,

INTERESTED OBSERVER.

BOMBAY INVENTIONS.

Two very useful inventions are now being brought to the notice of the local Municipality and the City Improvement Trust by Mr. Rutnagur, of the *Indian Textile Journal*. One is an apparatus for preventing the waste of pipe water—a device which Bombay requires very badly at the present time. In construction it is exceedingly simple, consisting of two vessels, each of which is large enough to hold, say, a bucketful of water. The vessels are connected with the main or supply pipe by means of a cock, which is so constructed that when turned in the usual way, it allows one of the vessels to be filled with water, while the other vessel is emptying its contents. The quantity of water delivered at each turn of the tap will be, however, limited to a bucket only. Thus, there can be no waste of water, should the tap be left open, as is frequently the case, as a further supply cannot be drawn unless the tap is turned the other way. The other invention is a new kind of window, which is designed to ventilate a building during all seasons of the year. The new window admits light and air without rain in monsoon weather, thus ensuring perfect and continuous ventilation in a building, which is not possible with the ordinary windows now in use. We are informed that the patent window has been very highly spoken of by the leading architects and engineers in the city. Like the waste water preventer we have just described, the ventilating device is also remarkably simple in construction and moderate in cost. Both the inventions deserve the most careful attention at the hands of our Corporation and our sanitary engineers.

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE

FOR health, beauty, and luxury, use the ALBION MILK and SULPHUR SOAP, which Lady Constance Howard writes, is "pleasant to use, and whitens and softens the Skin" also Testimonials from Countess Cathurst, Countess Clawnwilliam, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill, and many others, Delicately perfumed. Warning: When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, see that name and figure-head of "ALBION" are on the wrapper. Sold by all Chemists, Grocers, &c.

THE BOMBAY AUXILIARY BIBLE AND TRACT AND BOOK SOCIETIES.

THE joint annual meeting of the Bombay Auxiliary Bible Society and the Bombay Tract and Book Society was held in the New C. M. S. Mission Church Hall, Girgaum, last evening, the Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Bombay presiding.

The report of the Committee of the Auxiliary Bible Society for the year 1893 showed that in point of the total circulation of scriptures the previous year had been quite an exceptional one. The Committee had the joy of reporting the largest total circulation since the formation of the Auxiliary in 1813. It could hardly be wondered at, therefore, that the figures for the year under review fell short of those for 1897. Apart from this fact, however, the progress, in some departments of the work, had been marked. The Colporteurs had done much better than in the previous year. There had been many open doors for Bible-woman's work, and additional Bible-women had been employed in several districts. The returns from the Branch Depots in the mofussil also showed clearly the need for such agencies and their usefulness in the centres where they were established. The increase in donations and subscriptions was also encouraging, and it was to be earnestly hoped that the present standard of giving to a cause, which should be dear to the heart of every Bible-loving Christian, would be maintained in future years. Although the Parent Society were ever ready with their aid, the Committee felt that the pecuniary burden should be shared as much as possible by the friends of the Auxiliary in Western India. During the year the printing of 2,000 copies of the complete Marathi Bible, 4,000 copies of the New Testament and 3,000 copies of the small 8vo. small type edition of the Marathi Bible was completed under the superintendence of the Rev. Tukaram Nathoji.

In the month of October, the revised edition of St. Matthew's Gospel in Marathi was brought out, and in the same month the Committee sanctioned the printing of 20,000 copies of the revised edition of St. Luke's Gospel, which at the end of the year were almost completed. In November they also sanctioned the printing of similar editions of the Gospels of St. Mark and St. John. At the Surat Mission Press, 5,000 Gujarathi copies of each of the books of Genesis, Psalms and Proverbs were printed and the printing of 20,000 copies of the Acts of the Apostles was sanctioned by the Committee. Meanwhile the printing of the new portable edition of the Gujarathi Bible had been proceeded with the whole of the New Testament and more than half of the old having been completed. The total number of copies actually put into circulation during the year was 63,562. The issues from the Bombay Depot were 50,347 copies. These represented 29 languages. During last year there were altogether 10 Colporteurs employed by the Society. They sold between them 12,833 Scriptures and portions realizing Rs. 839-2-2, whilst their salaries, commissions, and travelling expenses amounted to Rs. 1,508-4-10. The cost to the Society circulating each copy was one anna five pies. During the Parent Society's grant year, i.e., from October 1st 1897, to September 30th 1898, the number of Bible-women employed through this Auxiliary had increased from 4 to 10. Of this number 2 were at work in Poona, 2 in Malegaon, 2 in the Sonai District, 2 in the Roha District, 1 in Dharwar, and 1 in Nasik. Their reports showed that the average number of women per week to whom the Scriptures were read regularly was 593. In this number were included Maratha, Brahman, and Musalman women. Of the number thus read to 21 women were now able to read the Scriptures for themselves. Five Bibles, 20 New Testaments and 75 Portions were given away, and 16 New Testaments, and 227 Portions sold, realising Rs. 4-8-5. The salaries of the Bible-women amounted to Rs. 982. Many testimonies were forthcoming as to the value of the work of these Bible-women. The total receipts during the year including the balance of the previous year brought forward amounted to Rs. 30,415-14-4, and the total expenditure to Rs. 24,206-3-11, thus leaving a credit balance of Rs. 6,309-10-5, to be carried forward to the year 1899. The total proceeds of Scriptures sold amounted to Rs. 4,585-0-0, and sales from the Bombay Depot alone to Rs. 3,373-4-6.

The report of the Committee of the Bombay Tract and Book Society for the year 1898, was then read, from which we give the following extracts:—After eighteen years' labour in this country the Rev. W. G. Peel has received the reward of work well done in a call to more work as the first Bishop of the new See of Mombassa; his vacant seat on the Committee will be filled by his successor in Bombay the Rev. W. A. Roberts. Turning to the general work of the Society, one subject has in especial occupied the attention of the Committee. The use of Tracts in Mission work in Western India seems, to judge from the experience of the last few years, to have greatly declined. This is much to be deprecated; the history of all forms of propagandism shows that literature of this kind is of the utmost importance in reaching masses of people. The distribution of Tracts, whether by sale or free, ought to be recognised as an integral part of the work of every missionary, and as the Tract and Book Society produce them and sell them at a price below their cost they may well look to the great Societies to keep before their agents the imperative necessity of not neglecting this method of work, and moreover, of supplying them with the means to carry it out. The Committee are offering their Vernacular publications in parcels of the nominal value of not less than Rs.30 for those missionaries who wish to avail themselves of the offer at the following rates those under 4 annas in value at a discount of 75 per cent., and those of or above 4 annas at a discount of 33⅓ per cent., the latter being returnable in 3 months, if in good condition. Further, to any missionary who will undertake to make a sustained effort a parcel of the nominal value of Rs. 25 will be granted free to start with. During the year the Society has become the Agent for the Student Volunteer Movement for India and Ceylon and has a prospect of great usefulness in this direction; as the movement spreads its literary activity will increase, and of this we shall be the ministers. The lease of a portion of the site on which the Society's premises are built having expired, a new lease for fifty years has been granted by Government at a somewhat enhanced rent. There has again been the Committee regret to say, a failing off in the sales, the total for this year being Rs. 18,791-8-10, as compared with Rs. 21,711-10-4 last year. The value of the sales on Commission for the Christian Literature Society of India amounted to Rs. 8,038-7-3.

The meeting then passed resolutions, adopting the reports and appointing the office bearers for the current year.

The Lord Bishop then addressed the meeting. He said that that was certainly the first time in his experience of public meetings that he witnessed the happy and edifying spectacle of the two societies embracing each other in public on the occasion of their annual meeting. He believed that in this country some times doubt existed for the proper understanding of genders and he was in expectation that some native grammarian might specify to the committee, the name of one society or other in respect of which a particular gender was to be used. If that was so, they should look forward confidently and with reliance to the determination of that point. Because it must be regarded as evidence of principle and propriety that those who loved each other should follow it up by action of some kind or other. Perhaps these observations would be held to be somewhat frivolous. However he would assure them that they were based on perfectly safe and sound ground. He might point out that Colonel Freeman, who was Secretary to the one Society and Vice-President to the other, was in love with both the bodies. The speaker had therefore with great pleasure and privilege accepted the kind and courteous invitation of Colonel Freeman to preside at the meeting. For he believed that by the union of two such Christian Societies and organization, they would be doing common work in a good cause, notwithstanding difference of opinion about the mode of working and the principles to be followed. They were all subordinate to some authority or principle. He had over him his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was patriarch of the English Church and again the Bishop of Calcutta, the metropolitan of India. But even if both these high ecclesiastical dignitaries were in Bombay and been asked by Colonel Freeman to come and occupy the chair, which the speaker had been called upon to occupy, he had very little doubt that they would have gladly acceded to the request. Both Societies however could be welded together in propagating the spirit of the gospel and the knowledge of Jesus Christ in lands, where these were most needed and in doing united christian work His Lordship held that there was nothing more effectual in touching the conscience and reaching the finer senses in the human heart than a tract. In praising the work accomplished by the S. P. C. K. and the Bible Society, his Lordship said that it would be impossible to express the debt they all owed to them and he earnestly advised those present to assist in the cause of both the Societies, by handsome contributions.

The meeting dispersed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

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THE PORT TRUST AND PLAGUE EXPENDITURE.

LETTER TO GOVERNMENT.

HOW THE PORT MUST SUFFER.

(Concluded from yesterday's "Bombay Gazette.")

AT the meeting of the Port Trustees held on the 14th instant the following letter on the subject of the proposal that the Trustees should contribute to the Plague operations in the City was approved for submission to Government:—

13. In the case of the wharfage revenue, the Trustees' argument goes further, as it is maintained that any deficiency in respect of the interest due on the land debt, owing to a considerable area of land being still unoccupied, has to be made up from the wharfage rates charged to the trade. Government decided that although this may be the case, the vacant land must nevertheless be assessed for Municipal taxes in the same way as other vacant lands in the city. In accordance with the decision of Government the assessment is made on the wharfage income and on the estimated income from vacant lands as well. But so long as any of the wharfage rates are maintained for this reason at rates higher than might otherwise be charged for wharf and dock facilities, the Trustees may rightly refer to this as an additional reason why the trade should not be further taxed, although in view of the other reasons given in the opening paragraphs of this letter further argument on this point would seem unnecessary.

14. No part of the vacant lands can be said to be unassessed. The third part to which the President refers is apparently the space allowed as the means of communication, as roads in fact, where roads have not been made, an allowance which cannot be considered as any concession *because* the proportion of roads to land will be seen on reference to the plans of the Elphinstone, Mody Bay and Apollo Bay Estates to be at least as much as one-third the area of those Estates.

15. It is said that no higher tax is paid on vacant land occupied for short periods during the currency of the quinquennial settlement; but it must be remembered that the tax is levied on the amount shown in the accounts of the year preceding the settlement to have been earned from casual tenancies of vacant lands. If those earnings were progressive in amount the argument of the President might have some value. The fact is that the earnings are variable although the variation is not more than 8 per cent. up or down. Thus the Trustees paid the tax throughout the settlement of 1889-90 to 1894-95 on the casual tenancies of the year 1888-89 which amounted to Rs. 3,07,501, but when the next settlement came to be made the casual tenancies were found to be rather less, namely Rs. 2,96,947. The Municipality had the advantage in the first and the Trust in the second case. In either case it is a very small matter as the assessable value of the difference to one or the other party is little more than Rs. 760 a year. A reference to the assessment of vacant land must however take account of the very liberal way in which the value of such lands has been estimated. Government pays the Municipality on a rental equal to 4 per cent. on the value of Government land and the common usage is 2½ cent. on lands, but the Trustees have allowed the much higher rental of 5 per cent., and the difference amounts to several thousands of rupees in favour of the Municipality against the few hundreds for which the President contends snowing that it would be the Trustees and not the Municipality who would gain by any revision of the present settlement as regards this point also.

16. The manner of assessing the Trust properties may be shown under other heads, to be equally fair to the Municipality, but it is unnecessary to trouble Government with explanations on points other than those to which the President has particularly referred.

17. With regard to the complaint of the Municipality that rent is charged amounting to Rs. 7,000 a month for land occupied for plague camps and hospitals, I am to say that the same rents have been charged to Municipality as under the scale of rates in force are obtained from the general public who use the land for storing goods and for other temporary purposes. The area occupied by the Municipality aggregates 68,000 square yards. The rent the Municipality has been paying was only a fair consideration for the accommodation made available and considering that on the Elphinstone and Mody Bay Estates where the bulk of the occupied area is situated, the Municipality has assessed to Trustees' vacant lands for many years on the rents which they were asked to pay, there is scarcely room for any complaint on their part. The President would not argue that it was one thing when the Trustees had to pay and another when payment had to be made by the Municipality.

18. The advent of plague camps and hospitals on the more valuable and busier parts of the Trustees' Estates has not been an unmixed blessing. Such occupations besides deterring others from taking sites have lost the Trustees a direct income of Rs. 1,000 on Mody Bay and Rs. 2,000 on the Elphinstone Estate and have caused these trade much inconvenience by the Municipality selecting in several instances, in spite of the remonstrances of the Trust and the offer of sites elsewhere, plots of land which every year are required in the comparatively limited space available near the docks for the storage of goods waiting shipment. The Trustees recognise that on the occasion of a visitation so serious as the plague they must be prepared to make sacrifices, but the Municipality on their part should appreciate the services rendered to them.

19. The Trustees, it must also be pointed out, are debited with the cost of this land, and have to find the interest on the debt, which in the case of the portion where Government is their creditor is charged at 4 1-2 per cent. The Trustees nevertheless had, on the 18th October, previous to the date of the President's letter, given consideration to the matter and ordered that only half the usual rates should be charged the Municipality, and they have since made a further reduction to 3-16ths of the usual rates with retrospective effect from 1st April 1898, under which arrangement the Municipality will practically pay no more than the direct loss of income—the out-of-pocket expenses so to speak—that the Trust has incurred in providing space for plague purposes.

20. The services rendered by the Municipality to the Trust during the plague epidemics and at all times have been referred to more than once in the President's letter and call for some notice.

21. With regard to the plague operations it has to be pointed out that the Trustees have practically relieved the Municipality of the care of the employes of the Trust and dock labourers. They have maintained their own Plague hospital and camps, opened a dispensary and instituted a system for the supply of medical aid, and have since the first outbreak erected a large permanent block of buildings at a cost of two lakhs of rupees where nearly 1,000 of their labourers and families who formerly lived under the most insanitary conditions in the city are now comfortably lodged.

22. With regard to the Municipal services at other times it may be asked what services are rendered beyond those of a good Municipal Administration to which the Trust is entitled in return for the taxes it pays; taxes derived from a trade which for the most part is located on the Trust properties and passes the railway terminal to the docks. The Municipality can show no facilities specially provided for the trade. It is the Trust that provides them.

23. It is true that the Trust pays a tenth less than is payable by an ordinary owner of buildings and land in the City on account of the general tax (Section 145 of the Municipal Act, 1888). But the reason is that the Trust is a public body whose operations are beneficial to the City beyond those of ordinary owners. The works along the Eastern side of the Island which have converted a malarious foreshore into good building land; the many miles of roads made for public use, and the other numerous and costly works of improvement carried out by the Trustees at their own cost may be pointed to as furnishing the reasons which actuated the Legislature in treating the Trust differently to other owners. The City is benefited by the operation of the Trust as they are not simply profitable investments but add materially to the improvement of the City and the advancement of its prosperity and exceed in extent and character anything that ordinary private owners would undertake. The concession of a tenth in the general tax is therefore no indulgence but an acknowledgment of the public services the Trust renders, and was fixed by the Legislative Council after a critical examination of the question when the Municipal case was presented in a specially able manner. It does not stand by itself as in the history of Municipal Administrations the examples are many, where for the promotion of the prosperity of the citizens, as at Manchester, very large sums compared with this concession have been appropriated by Municipalities to harbour works. The Trust makes no demand on the public purse, but carries out such works at its own cost and risk, and the value of its ownership of an important section of the city is more conspicuous when a heavy expenditure is about to be incurred in the sanitary improvement of other parts.

24. With regard to the financial position of the Trust I am to say that it will probably be made sufficiently clear by the following particulars of the Revenue and Expenditure of the past five years, viz:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
1893-94	47,00,348	47,13,214	.....	12,865
1894-95	48,79,036	48,71,103	7,933	.....
1895-96	49,15,594	48,82,744	32,844	.....
1896-97	47,97,617	50,51,117	.....	2,53,500
1897-98	46,48,469	48,47,049	.....	1,98,610

The growth of the Trustees' income will be seen to have been seriously checked in the years of famine and plague when deficits amounting to Rs. 4,52,440 had to be made good from the Reserve Fund. In the present year the income in all probability will amount to Rs. 52,50,000, but a considerable portion of the income being derived from rates for handling goods, &c., the expenditure will also be increased and the surplus will be about two lakhs. Such surplus must, under the provisions of Section 51 of the Port Trust Act, be added to the Reserve which would then stand at say Rs. 11,85,000 taking the nominal value of the securities in which it is invested. In view of recent events and of the fact that a large portion of the Trustees' income fluctuates with the trade this is by no means a large provision, and is four lakhs below the maximum fixed by Government. The Trustees have no cash balance beyond this fund, as any earnings in excess of the reserve must under the same section be paid in reduction of debt. The specific purpose for which the reserve was accumulated was to avoid the possibility of having unexpectedly to raise the charges on the trade in years when from transient causes the revenue should fall off. The Trustees are themselves fettered in the use they make of it, and even supposing it were not unlawful to appropriate any part of it to purposes outside the scope of the Port Trust Act, it would be imprudent to do so with the Reserve Fund as low as it is now. Further if the payment were made from the Reserve the Trustees would suffer both the loss of the income now earned on the investment in the shape of interest, and a loss in realising at an unfavourable time, and if a special loan were raised they would have to meet the interest and sinking fund so that in either case they would lose to the extent of say Rs. 40,000 per annum.

25. The Trustees' Budget Estimates for 1899-1900 are now before Government, and it will be seen that after providing for the increase in Municipal Taxation and the interest on loans, only the small surplus of Rs. 34,000 may be expected, and this, it may be added, is likely to be absorbed in making further provision for sinking funds to cover the Trustees' debts which the Government of India consider to be necessary. It is evident therefore that, as matters stand at present, the revenue will not admit of an additional expenditure of Rs. 40,000 per annum.

26. To raise rates for a Municipal purpose would, as before stated (paras. 14 to 0), be unjust to the Port, and opposed to the views of the Government of India as expressed in their letter above quoted, and in the opinion of the Trustees, even where their own necessities are concerned, it would be most injudicious to do so as in the competition of commerce any such action must inevitably tend to obstruct the trade of the port. The local charges paid by the trade are not low as compared with other Indian ports. Indeed they are in some instances rather high, and the Trustees are as a matter of fact now letting the growth of revenue to assist trade by reducing some of the rates that experience has shown to be high, and by providing further facilities.

27. The importance to the trade that any available funds should be reserved for Trust purposes, and the reluctance of the Trustees to raise the rates is demonstrated by the fact that at this present moment works of improvement estimated to cost about 10 lakhs have had to be deferred.

28. Those works include the extension of the transit shed accommodation at the docks, as owing to the great size of the vessels now trading to Bombay the space at present available at the berths nsufficient and much inconvenience has resulted; the extension of the warehouses which recently on several occasions have been filled to overflowing; and the provision of improved facilities for the transport of goods round the docks and from the ships to the sheds which the labour strikes have shown to be urgently needed. Another and more important work that the Trusteesmust be prepared to undertake soon is the extension of the Wet Dock accommodation which will involve an expenditure of nearly a crore of rupees, and as the revenue of the Trust will only gradually increase as the trade expands their present resources must be husbanded to meet the increased charges for interest and maintenance until their works become remunerative. It would be nothing short of calamitous that the execution of works such as these should be delayed by reason of the Trustees' funds being appropriated to other purposes. I have, &c.,

(Sd.) F. G. DUMAYNE,
Secretary

THE ARAB TRIBES OF THE FRONTIER.—II.

SIR THOMAS HOLDICH'S PAPER.

THE following is the second portion of Sir Thomas Holdich's recent lecture before the London Anthropological Institute, on his theory of an Arab wave across Asia from west to east and its particular ethnological effects with regard to the Baluchistan border. After pointing out how evident are the Arab races in local speech and the early mastery in navigation which the Arabs acquired, he proceeds:—

Our own first beginnings in the science of ocean navigation were borrowed from the Arabs. Our first great sailing ships were modelled on the Arab "buggalow" or "dhow"; and our naval terms are Arabic. What else is "admiral," or the names of our smaller craft "barge," "dinghy," and the apparently good old English word "jolly-boat"? The corresponding boat in Arabic is "jalaba," and as the others are clearly Arabic, I do not see why that should not be. So that we need not be surprised if these are evidences of Arab influences, and probably of Arab occupation in Africa and India, and on the Persian and Mekran coasts long before the days of Islam. It is true that they did not actually occupy Sistan and Mekran till after the downfall of the Persian monarchy; but they possessed widespread settlements there long before the invasion of India by Muhammad Kassim in 705 A. D. It was their occupation of Mekran, combined with the command of the sea, that so signally assisted the progress, not only of that most successful invasion but of a simultaneous expedition for the conquest of China. Sistan, Mekran, and Southern Baluchistan, as well as Sindh, are all full of their records in brick and stone. In Sistan there are to be found the remains of cities of brick built houses, and tombs which are of the structure of those which now stand in the cities of Southern Arabia.

In Baluchistan and Mekran there are thousands of relics of splendidly constructed "bunds" or dams to form water reservoirs for irrigation purposes where water is scarce. I need not tell you of the remains of the great medieval cities which formed a line through Mekran to India almost from end to end; of the groups of decorated tombs sacred to the memory of Khalmat chiefs; of the stone sepulchres of the kings at Tatta, in Sindh. All these things are written of elsewhere. The point on which I wish to insist is that the Arabs are on the frontier still. Ask any Baluchi whom you may meet, and he will almost certainly say that he is an Arab of the Prophet's own tribe and that his tribe came from Aleppo.

It is possible that there are few pure Arabs in the border country. We know that in the time of the great Arab invasion of India through Mekran, the Arab troops, who were mostly drawn from Syria, never saw their country again, and they brought no women with them. It is probable, therefore, that there was originally much admixture in the ranks of the Baluch tribes of Arab extraction; just as there is in the Tajak tribes of quasi-Persian extraction, and it is not impossible that more of the mixed races have stayed to make this their country than of the pure bred Arabs who must have come over in thousands during the centuries in which they held the dominant power in the Indus Valley. However that may be, it is certain that the Arab tongue has disappeared from the Indus Valley as completely as it has from Mekran, and that the language of all tribes alike is now that archaic form of Persian which we call Baluchi.

According to Sir H. Elliot, who quotes Ferishta, the Arabs never really colonised Sindh, and their occupation of the Indus Valley terminated with Al Kadir in 1031. Yet they occupied Mekran, and a great part of the Persian coast, long after the last of the Khalifs had been starved in his treasury at Baghdad, for we have the evidence of Marco Polo in 1290 that 'the most part of the people in Kez Macoran are Saracens. They live by merchandise and industry, for they are professed traders and carry on much traffic by sea and land.'

THE RINDS.

The most prominent of the Arab tribes are now included in the great confederation of Rinds. Rinds are to be found under that designation in two groups, one to the north-east of Kelat, which includes the Marris, Bugris, Bozdars, etc, and one in Mekran massed about the lower Kej Valley near Mand. These latter are usually known as the Rinds of Mand. But the desert-bred Rekis, the Sinjaranis of the Helmund and many other tribes all call themselves Rind, and all subscribe to the same old tradition that their progenitors were Koreish Arabs who were driven from Syria by the persecution of the Kaliph Yejid at the end of the seventh century. But there have been tribes in Sindh in comparatively recent times who claim direct connection with Arabia. Such were the Khalmatis who are traditionally supposed to come, from Oman, who took their name from Khalmat on the Mekran coast, where they settled ere they finally migrated to Sindh, and became a powerful and dominant people in the lower Indus Valley and the plains of Las Bela.

It is long since every vestige of the mediæval Arab cities of Mekran and Bela has disappeared, so far as buildings are concerned, but the tombs of the Khalmats are still there, grouped in clusters on rising ground, overlooking the rivers and plains, wherever a fairer prospect than usual greets the eye, and commends itself to one's sense of the beauties of Nature. There are many of them within reach of Karachi, and in simplicity of design and construction allied to an equally simple grace of geometric ornamentation, I knew of nothing like them elsewhere. I believe the Khalmatis have disappeared altogether, but of this I am not quite certain. The carvings on their tombs are as fresh and clean cut as if they had been turned out yesterday, but in that exceptionally dry climate they may be many centuries old all the same. To put it broadly, all the best of the Baluchis are Arabs by descent and the best of the Baluchis are the best of our frontier tribesmen. We do not see many of them in our ranks as sepoys. They do not care about the discipline of regular service, and our so-called Baluch regiments, like some of our so-called Highland regiments, are not distinguished for the number of recruits who answer exactly to the regimental designation. But as border robbers and raiders, as light horsemen of the heroic type, they have probably been unequalled since the days of the Parthians.

ASIA'S GENTLEMEN.

For the true Baluch chief is a gentleman by nature and heredity, a gentleman such as one many meet in Arabia, self-possessed, courteous, free, yet graceful in his bearing, an accomplished horseman, a man of the world, who is not to be disconcerted by such trifles as a want of linguistic knowledge or the surroundings of civilised existence to which he is unaccustomed. I have seen an Arab chief sit down to breakfast in a company of officers on board ship. He "came from the country," and had probably never seen a knife and fork before. Possibly he had never sat in a chair. Certainly he did not know a word of English, nor his entertainers a word of Arabic, yet he retained not only his dignity but his ease, and in half an hour he was complete master of the situation. There is much of this in the Baluch who is as distinct from the Pathan who jostles him on the frontier border, as a Circassian chief is from a Levantine.

I have often been asked why it is that our control of the southern borderland is so much more effective than that of the north. It is very much due to our strategical position there. We are not merely *facing* the Baluch independent tribes, we are at the back of them, and their country is more easily approached from the back. Quetta is not merely a block in the way of an advance into India; it is the metropolis of Baluchistan occupying a central dominant position from the control of which there is no escape. But there is also to be considered the difference in the national characteristics of the two races. Both are subject to tribal organisation, but the Pathan is individualy more independent, acknowledging no authority but the tribal jirgah, and surrendering his freedom of action only to the voice of the mullah. The head of every Pathan household consider himself a chief in his own right, as good as any other chief in his clan. The Baluch, on the other hand, is loyal and true to the acknowledged head of his tribe, and as much of a patriot as any highlander of the Scottish border. This much simplifies the political dealings of Government with him. His method, too, of meeting an enemy in the field is different from that of the Pathan. When a Baluch warrior goes into action he goes to stay. He will picket his mare under the nearest tree, and rush into the thick of the fray with sword and shield, scorning to take advantage of cover fighting with the traditional courage of the Arab in the open field, whether that field is in the valleys of Beluchistan, or in the Soudan. And the result is the same in either case.

We know what happened at Omdurman, but perhaps few followed the course of the brilliant little campaign lately conducted by Colonel Mayne in the far rougher field of Mekran. The Baluchis thought to overwhelm his little force in the open, just as the Khalifa thought to overwhelm Kitchener. And when that notorious old freebooter and robber, well named Baluch Khan, found that individual courage was of no avail against better discipline and better arms, he put himself at the head of a gallant remnant of his force and went straight for the guns. He died like an Arab.

I need not refer to the different tactics adopted by the Afridi, who does not lack courage either, but much prefers stout cover, and a long range rifle, whether engaged in a national fight, or a private vendetta. He will only fight like a Sikh or an Arab when he finds there is no better way of fighting.

A COMPARISON OF CUSTOMS.

The varied characteristics of the two races are well summed up by Oliver in his charming book "Across the Border." The Baluch, he says, is "essentially a nomad, good-looking, frank, with well cut features, black and well oiled flowing hair and beard, attired in a smock frock that is theoretically white, but never is washed save on the rare occasion when he goes to a darbar; and he is a general favourite. He is a bit of a buck, and when he finds himself passing into the sere and yellow he dyes his hair. It is not uncommon to find an old gentleman with eye-brows of deep black and the tip of his beard gradually shading off through purple to red, to roots of pure white. His wife makes quite a toilet and arranges her hair in many effective plaits, but any connection with soap and water would be voted by either as a mark of the worst effeminacy. He shares with the Pathan many of the virtues and vices peculiar to a wild and semi civilised people, but in many respects he presents the most agreeable contrast. Both are given to hospitality, both ready to exact an eye for an eye, a life for a life, but the Baluch prefers to kill his enemy from the front, and the Pathan from behind. To both "Allah is great and Muhammad is his Prophet," but the Pathan is often a dangerous fanatic, whilst the Baluch is perfectly willing to have his prayers said for him. As Ibbetson pithily puts it—"he has less of God in his head and less of the devil in his nature." There is a story of one who, asked why he did not keep the feast of the Ramzan, replied that he was excused, as his chief was keeping it for him. "What are you doing?" said another to a pious Muhammadan who was saying his prayers in the plains. "Praying in the fear of God," said the plainsman. "Come along to my hills," rejoined the Baluch, "where we don't fear anybody." Both have but dim perceptions of the difference between *meum* and *tuum*, preferring "the good old rule, the simple plan, that he should take who has the power, and he should keep who can."

The love of a Baluch for his horse has passed into a proverb all over the world. This again is an Arab instinct. If a Baluch cannot own a whole horse, he will become the proprietor of one leg or more, as the case may be, and claims, an equivalent share in the use of the animal. Baluchis still prefer mares for their long rides over rough hills, although the original reason for this choice (the fact that mares are less inclined to lift up their voices and scream to their companions when it is desirable to preserve strict silence) has passed away with their opportunities for raiding; but I understand that this prejudice is fast disappearing. An Afghan would consider it beneath his dignity to ride a mare at all. His prejudices are all the other way.

Taking him for all in all, our frontier Arab has much to recommend him. I have sat in durbar with Sir Robert Sandeman and watched with admiration the magnificent form of the Mari and Bugti chiefs clothed in clean white, bearing themselves as princes in the land; and the contrast with the gaily clad and much bejewelled Brahui royalties of Kalat has been almost too striking. Courage and loyalty are what one would naturally expect in such splendid human setting—and courrage and loyalty is exactly what Sandeman found, and what he, of all men, knew best how to appreciate.

A CORRESPONDENT vouches for the truth of the following anecdote:—At the International football match in Edinburgh—Ireland v. Scotland—when it had become painfully evident that the Scottish were entirely overweighted, and the spirits of the vast majority of the spectators had become considerably damped in consequence, a dashing bit of play on the part of the Irish, instead of being met by the outburst of cheering which it undoubtedly merited, produced a most portentous silence, more eloquent than words as indicative of the scare produced on the minds of the onlookers. Thereupon an Irishman in the crowd, apparently disgusted at the want of recognition of his countrymen's prowess, exclaimed aloud, "Och, sure, listen to the silence!"

Lord Charles Beresford, spe

CYCLING AT HOME.

LONDON, MARCH 3.

LONDON cyclists are feeling not a little perturbed at the sweeping clause in a new bill before Parliament which is being introduced by the Home Secretary. The object of the bill is to give a better control to the chief commissioner of police over the traffic in the streets. London thoroughfares have been scandalously clogged with omnibuses, and the public vehicles plying for hire, and the police have no powers of regulating their numbers or determining their route. Now the new bill giving them such powers is cast in such widely inclusive phraseology that it gives the police commissioner almost unbounded powers over all other classes of road users as well. If it becomes law he is to be empowered to frame regulations as to the route to be followed by any vehicles, and to have power to limit or wholly restrict the use of certain classes of vehicles at certain hours in certain streets. Cycles, as a kind of vehicle, are within the scope of this enactment, and it does not need a very brilliant prophet to foretell that restrictions on cycles, now *ultra vires*, will soon be made under an Act primarily intended to deal with public vehicles. It is with the hope that the bill may be amended to refer only to public conveyances that the cyclists are now agitating. They do not want even a part of their privileges docked, and it is already notorious that the average policeman's attitude is one of hostility to cyclists, so that further power put in their hands is a thing greatly to be deplored.

The contemplated team race on the road between exponents of the standard pattern of 6 1/2 cranks and the new advocates of nine inch levers has been postponed until the advent of spring, and may be possibly shelved altogether, as the nine inch fraternity are seeking to make the contest a complicated comic opera proceeding instead of a plain trial of speed. The course of 100 miles out and home is agreed to, but the long crank men stipulate that there shall be a compulsory lunch *en route* to occupy half an hour; that the men shall be medically examined before, during, and after the race, and if physically distressed shall be disqualified, and they also desire that men of the same ages shall form the teams, and that the short cranked cycles shall be weighted up to equality with those ridden by the long crank theorist. So there ought to be an amusing spectacle if not an orthodox race. But a pure speed test, as well, will have to be undertaken if anything is to be proved concerning the speed value of the new scheme. The doctor watching you dine after the race to see if your appetite is normal, and feeling your pulse at half way point, is all very funny but it proves nothing and is not a sporting way of accepting an ordinary challenge. There are plenty of men of sound health, still sound, who have done inside six hours for a hundred miles. No one on the new fangled nine inch cranks has ever done this yet, so the doctors and the dinners and so forth are added trimmings to hide the climbing down of the faddists.

There is keen competition already for the seats at the coming of age dinner of the National Cyclists Union this month. The affair will be a red-letter day in the history of the N. C. U., and the first occasion in which Mr. A. J. Balfour, the President, will take a direct part in the Union's affairs. He will take the chair and be supported by Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Sir Howard Vincent, and a whole crowd of celebrities as well as a number of past workers for the Union benefit. In addition to taking over the work of legislating for motor races, the N. C. U. in its keenness to follow up new developments of the sport has summoned a conference to deal with the question of cycle-polo, with a view to summarizing rules for the game, and making a universal code. At present every team of polo players is a law to itself and a uniform code is eminently to be desired.

There is some pleasure to the persecuted cyclist in catching a magistrate tripping, and one of the metropolitan magnates recently declared that a cyclist was bound to have his lamp alight at night whether he was wheeling his machine or riding it. He was wrong however, as the act of parliament touching the offence speaks of persons "riding, or being upon" cycles, and trundling a machine is clearly neither of these things.

The value of the cycle to a detective was recently exemplified in Worcestershire. A tramp stole an overcoat at Droitwich. Immediately, the theft was known, a constable cycled into Worcester, informed a "fixed point" constable of the theft, and described the coat, and himself went to the police station. Presently the tramp marched into Worcester, with the coat on his back, and was promptly arrested.

Perhaps the most ludicrous perversion of the bicycle was the use lately made of it, for a wager, by two billiard players. They were to play for £500 a side, on bicycles. They used cues twice the normal length, and were not allowed to hold on to anything while making a stroke. It was more like "tilting" at a quintain, than billiard playing, and the game prematurely ended by one of the wagerers falling and fracturing his arm.

Wonderful weather for early spring has been favouring cyclists this year, and a spell of splendid sunlight and grand roads has made cycling a pleasure again and given a foretaste of the coming Easter tour that all wheelmen love. Even in this wintry time our ever fitful climate has been rivalling the South of France, for there, strange to say, while we have been having abnormal warmth, there has, actually been snow, for the first time for twenty years. A still more remarkable fact is that the French are losing their reputation for politeness and gallantry, for some lady riders at Nice, were noticed and seen to be English, and thereupon were hooted, and the youths of the district showed their fine martial spirit by spitting on the foreign visitors.

That riders of Dunlop tyres have but little experience of puncture troubles is demonstrated by the numerous unsolicited testimonials which are constantly received by the Company. Miss Lily Batt of Mendip, Bath, in a letter states:—"I have ridden my machine fitted with Dunlop roadster tyres for two years, and have never had a puncture."

One of the many excellent materials that go to build up the Dunlop tyre is the Flexifort fabric, which largely accounts for the "life" and resiliency. Great ingenuity has been displayed in the construction of the fabric so as to combine extreme softness and pliability with enormous strength, and only those materials which experience has proved to be the best are used in the manufacture to obtain these results.

It may interest cyclists to know that the Dunlop Company manufacture specially prepared solution of the best quality, for repairing tyres, india-rubber goods, &c. It is sold in collapsible tubes, and in 1 lb. tins and is obtainable of all agents from threepence, upwards.

Although the Dunlop tyre has obtained a world-wide reputation for speed, it should not be forgotton that it is as durable as it is fast and appeals to all classes of cyclists by reason of its effective non-slipping device, ease of manipulation and general excellence.

A. J. Cherry of the Catford Club, is one of the oldest racing men in the London district. At the early part of his career, he achieved a reputation in short distance events, but latterly he has figured very prominently in long distance racing, capturing, in '97, the N. C. U. 50 miles Championship at Wood Green, His most recent success was at Vienna last September when, with the assistance of the famous Dunlop Pacing teams, he won the 100 Kilos World's Amateur Championship quite easily. Like the majority of prominent racing men, Cherry rides Dunlop tyres.

AT the sitting of the Chamber on Feb. 24, a letter was read from Procureur-General Bertrand containing a narrative of the circumstances attending the arrest of M M. Deroulede and Marcel-Habert, and applying for a suspension of the parliamentary privilege enjoyed by the prisoners as deputies in order that they might be prosecuted. A committee appointed to deal with the matter decided unanimously in favour of the prosecution of the two deputies and against their provisional release. The recommendations of the committee were affirmed by a large majority in the Chamber.

THE revised shipbuilding programme provides for 140 vessels of various kinds to be constructed within the 10 years from 1896 to 1906. The total displacement of these vessels will be 245,665 tons, and they will comprise 6 battleships of 12,000 tons, 8 armoured cruisers of 9,500 tons, 3 cruisers of 7,500 tons, 8 of 4,000 tons, 3 of 2,500 tons, 3 despatch boats of 1,300 tons, 4 gunboats, 10 torpedo cruisers, 25 destroyers and 70 torpedo boats. Of these vessels 38 were laid down in 1897 and 19 in 1898, and according to the last arrangement 22 ships will be laid down during the present year.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A. M., ON THURSDAY, THE 23RD OF MARCH, 1899.

SUMMARY.

Pressure has decreased briskly at Jacobabad, Agra, Cawnpore, Jeypore, Ajmere, Neemuch, Saugor, Jubbulpore and Hosbangabad, and has been almost steady elsewhere. The distribution is becoming somewhat irregular, and the baric gradients are slight.

Winds along the coast from Goa northwards as far as Bombay show a slight tendency to cyclonic circulation, while calms and variable breezes prevail elsewhere. The force has been moderate to light. This morning the wind velocity was 10 miles an hour at Secunderabad.

The maximum temperature is from 6° to 11° in excess of the normal in Sind and at Jeypore, Bhuj, Rajkot and Surat, and the minimum 8° in excess at Jacobabad. Elsewhere the variations from the normal are moderate. The highest temperature in the shade was 109° at Surat and the lowest 59° at Cawnpore.

Humidity changes have been large at Agra, Allahabad, Karachi, Rajkot, Bhavnagar Para, Saugor, Bangalore, Coimbatore, Negapatam and Colombo. The skies are cloudy to overcast at Ratnagiri, Coimbatore, Negapatam and Colombo.

A few drops of rain have fallen at Colombo.

Pressure is comparatively low on and off the West Coast between Goa and Dwarka, and as the winds show a slight tendency to cyclonic circulation, the weather there is in a slightly unsettled condition. In Sind the maximum temperature is largely in excess of the normal and conditions appear to be becoming favourable for the formation of a disturbance to the westwards of Sind. In Ceylon and the extreme south of the Peninsula the weather is slightly favourable for local rain.

G. L. TOWERS,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

UNDELIVERED LETTERS.

THE following is a list of unclaimed letters lying at the Bombay General Post Office:—

Alcock J N, Rev	Ganchrane Mr	Nightingale Miss
Allan Cecil Miss	George D	Overthrow J Mrs
Allen W H	George Elias	Patterson W Kelly
Andrew Edwin Mrs	Glaser Curt Wilh	Peilte F
Atkinson Alex H, Mrs	Goddard Horace	Peterson C K
Avant Miss	Green W B	Pilcher Sergt
Baboo Baynath Chowbey	Halen Alfred	Plurta H
Barnard Elsie Miss	Hartnall Miss	Priniadis Anton
Bernard Jacques	Hawey E J	Puddephott A C
Biscoe C E Tyndall Rev	Hockley E Mrs	Ricketts Miss
Blackhall M J D	Holberg Adolf	Robertson Alfred J
Blackmore G I Dr	Hull E J Miss	Robertson James C
Bradshaw H S	Jenkins Rosa Mrs	Roodrow James
Brandon G A	Keil Maurice L	Rose L
Brodsky Sophie Miss	Knight Lulite Miss	Rudd Norman
Burrows W	Lambert J	Russell J W
Captain P	Leathley Miss	Rutter Alg
Cartwright H L	Lindqvist Karl Axel	Sains Miss
Cattani F	Linge Marcernaro	Scott J
Chatterton Dr	Lohatehy Fanny Miss	Seidman Isak
Clark R E Miss	Long W D	Sen B B
Clarke Chas B Rev	Loose J L	Sevecacy Mrs
Compton H	Macdonald L W	Sharpe F S
Connell Alex Rev	Mackenzie R D	Skshetuski B
Dempster David	Mallaine R	Slead R W
Dennis G W	Manecckji Nowroji Tarapurvevala	Smith Mrs
Deronzier P	McCarlon H Rev	Sorrow Manvill W B
Dinshaw S Cama	Middleton J S	Taylor M Mrs
Dodd J R	Mody K J	Thomas W I
Drummond A E, Miss	Mohamed Miya	Treacher Watter G
Faulkner Mr	Moritz M	Vignan A Dr
Fletcher L, Mrs	Murray M Annie Mrs	Watts Mrs
Frere W H	Naylor P	Weinwurm Moriz
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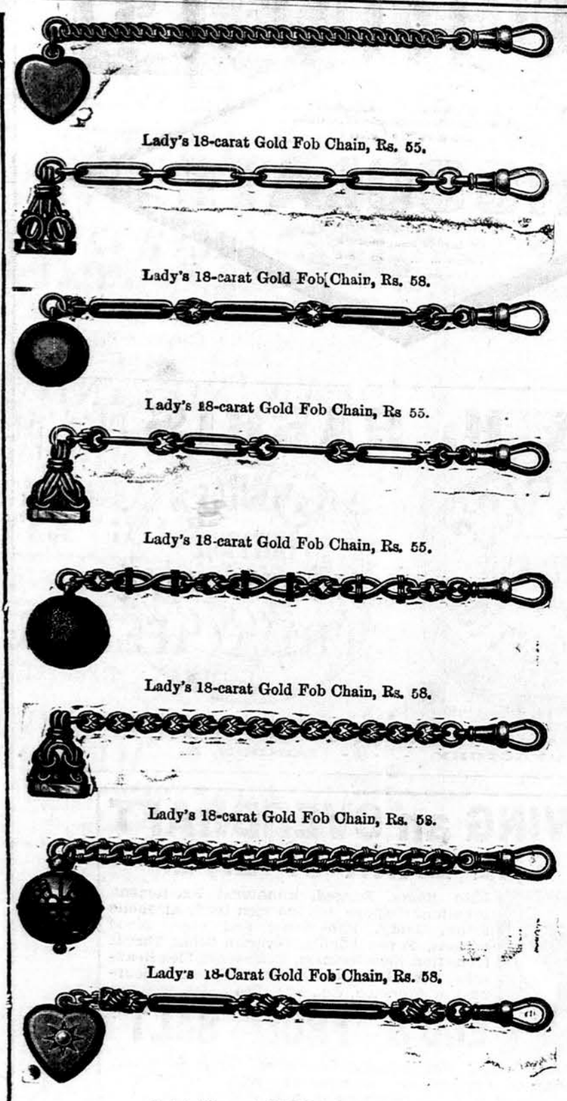
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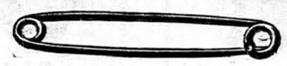
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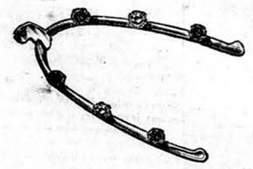
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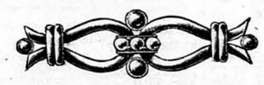
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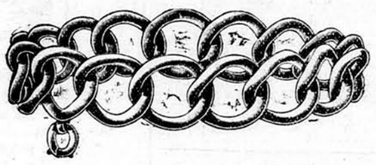
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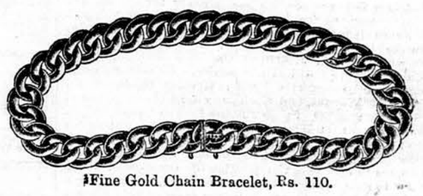
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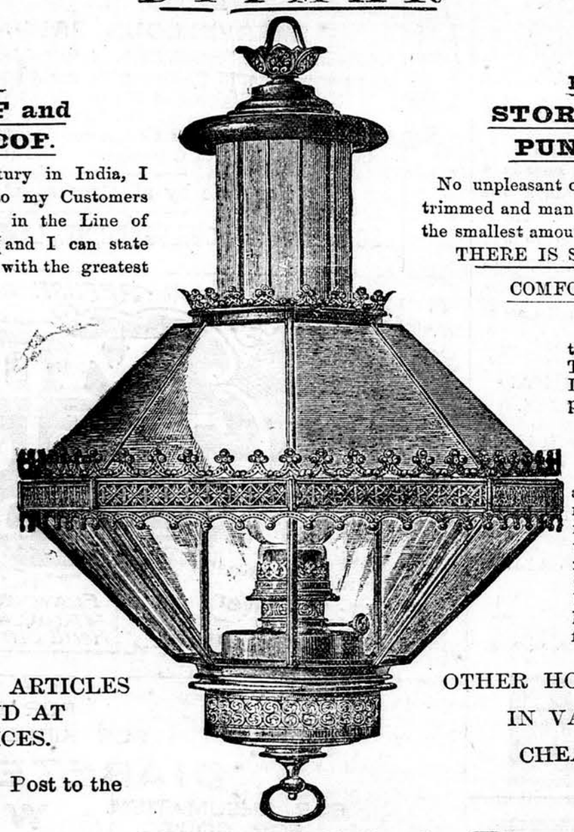

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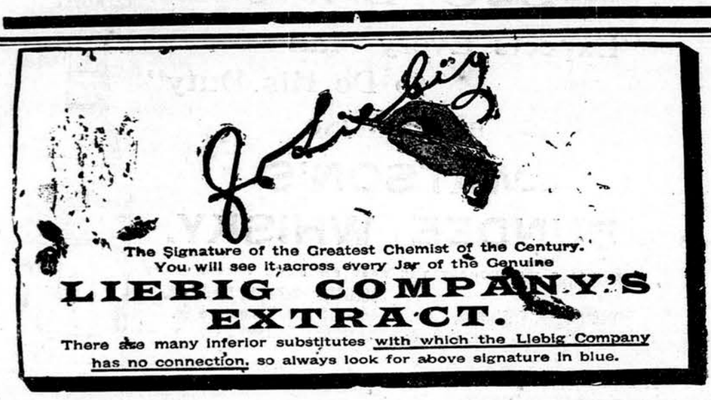
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